

THE BIG CORPORATE PLAYBOOK



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- ✓ **Play #1: Claim that consumers and low-income families will have to pay, when it's really corporations that pay**
- ✓ **Play #2: Predict massive job losses that never happen**
- ✓ **Play #3: Repeat forecasts of economic catastrophe that have never come to pass**

Every time voters or the Legislature push for policies that threaten large corporations' bottom lines, corporations turn to a "playbook" of arguments that have been proven wrong. These arguments have been consolidated into *The Big Corporate Playbook*, with more than 200 recent examples of large corporations using well-trodden yet inaccurate messages as a means to preserve profits.

Many of these examples are from Measures 66 & 67, when corporations and the wealthy were called on to pay their fair share for critical public services in Oregon. Oregonians saw through their false claims then, but that hasn't stopped corporations from continuing to use the same tired playbook in Oregon and across the country.

The Big Corporate Playbook has been in use for decades, and following many of the policy changes that corporations said would result in economic catastrophe, our country experienced stunning examples of economic growth. It's clear that the Big Corporate Playbook isn't based in reality.

We all know the reality: big corporations will play every trick in the book to avoid paying their fair share in taxes to support Oregon's schools, health care and senior services. They will say whatever it takes to protect their bottom line. That's nowhere more evident than in their use of the playbook during Measure 97. Big corporate special interests spent nearly \$30 million to convince Oregonians of the same tired arguments they've been using to preserve profits since the 20th century. Now, Oregon still faces a \$2 billion budget hole, and all the cut-and-paste rhetoric in the world won't change that.

This report shows that their predictions about A Better Oregon are wrong and nothing new. Investments in education and public services will make Oregon a better place to do business while improving the lives of hundreds of thousands of Oregonians.

PLAY #1: CLAIM THAT CONSUMERS AND LOW-INCOME FAMILIES WILL HAVE TO PAY, WHEN IT'S REALLY CORPORATIONS THAT PAY

A Better Oregon, 2017

"The legislature is proposing a corporate tax on Oregon sales, but it's really **a hidden sales tax**, and it could cost consumers billions of dollars in new taxes on goods and services in Oregon. Everything from **food, clothing, cars, cable TV and phone service to housing, gas, electricity, insurance, medicine and healthcare.**" — Priority Oregon, itsreallyjustasalestax.com

"What's worse, a tax on Oregon sales **increases consumer prices and hurts people who are least able to pay.** The tax would raise the cost of **food, clothing, housing, electricity, gas, and health care,** hurting **low and middle-income families and seniors living on fixed incomes the most.**" — Priority Oregon, itsreallyjustasalestax.com

Measure 97, 2016

"Because it is a tax on gross sales, this new tax scheme works like **a hidden sales tax** — only worse, because it is a **"tax on a tax"** that is compounded in each step in the supply chain." — Grow Oregon campaign literature

"We've put a solid foundation in place to clearly communicate with Oregon voters that they will be the ones paying most of this regressive tax through **higher prices for nearly everything they buy — groceries, gasoline, insurance, medicines, electricity, phones, medical care.**" — Rebecca Tweed, Defeat The Tax On Oregon Sales

"[Measure 97] **would especially impact low-income Oregonians.** Research has shown that taxes like IP28 **unfairly hurt those who can least afford to pay.**" — Grow Oregon campaign literature

Measure 66 & 67, 2010

"Under Measure 67 thousands of corporations will face **a hidden sales tax** and now pay more taxes even if they had no income, no profits." — State Rep. Kim Thatcher

"All these taxes trickle down to the individual. Think about the multiplier effect. Services used by every Oregonians will now have **a hidden sales tax.**" — State Rep. Kim Thatcher

"In effect what we're doing is paying **a tax on a tax.**" — Paul Romain, Executive Director of the Oregon Petroleum Association

“The \$733 million in new taxes will come from all Oregonians as they have to **pay more for groceries, gas and other services** — impacting everyone.” — Bob Wiggins on behalf of Oregonians Against Job-Killing Taxes

“Legislators say their plan only taxes the rich. They’re wrong. We’ll end up **paying more for groceries, gas and other services**, and that will impact all Oregonians, especially the poor.” — Oregonians Against Job-Killing Taxes

“I think it **hurts citizens the most, especially the poorest citizens...** Anybody who can pass those costs along will.” — Mysty Rusk, Corvallis-Benton Chamber Coalition

Examples from around the country

“Prop. 38 will force family businesses to cut jobs, move out of state, or even close. If they can stay in business, **they’ll raise prices to pay the higher taxes, which will ultimately be passed on to consumers.**” — Allan Zaremborg, President of the California Chamber of Commerce, California Proposition 38 Business Tax (2012)

“In fact, this deeply flawed tax measure would damage Nevada’s struggling economy, cause the loss of thousands of jobs and **force consumers to pay more for food, housing, utilities and healthcare.**” — Coalition to Defeat the Nevada Margins Tax, Question 3 Margins Tax (2014)

“This is a double whammy to **Coloradans who already are struggling to make ends meet.**” — Coloradans for Real Education Reform, Amendment 66 Income Tax (2013)

“This Democrat proposal to raise taxes will only hinder economic recovery and put **added financial stress on already struggling families.**” — Colorado State Senator Mike Kopp, Proposition 103 Income and Sales Tax (2011)

The Reality

State corporate taxes do not result in higher costs for goods and services in a state: <http://oregonconsumerleague.org/wp-content/uploads/Side-by-Side-Shopping-Cart-Study.pdf>

Previous tax increases in Oregon did not act as a hidden sales tax, as opponents claimed they would. <http://voteyeson97.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Debunking-the-claims-about-Measures-66.pdf>

Corporations and their shareholders, not families, are going to pay their fair share when Measure 97 passes. The real threats faced by Oregonians are record large class sizes, expensive health care, and the growing cost of retirement for seniors. Measure 97 will help by making large and out-of-state corporations pay their fair share so we can invest in schools, health care and senior services.

PLAY #2: PREDICT JOB LOSSES THAT NEVER HAPPEN

A Better Oregon, 2017

“The nonpartisan Legislative Revenue Office estimated that a similar tax, Measure 97, would have **cost Oregon thirty-eight thousand (38,000) private sector jobs** and could have made Oregon one of the worst states to locate a new business. It would hurt future economic development efforts and **kill jobs**. — Priority Oregon, itsreallyjustasalestax.com

Measure 97, 2016

“This measure’s \$6 billion tax increase on companies’ sales in Oregon would badly damage our state’s economy and job market. In fact, the in-depth LRO study concluded that **this giant tax increase would result in over 38,000 lost private sector jobs** in Oregon.” — No on 97 campaign website, defeat97.com

Measure 66 & 67, 2010

“The Legislative Revenue Office estimates that **these tax hikes will kill 5,865 critical Oregon jobs**.” — The Associated Oregon Industries, written under the auspices of the Alliance of Oregon’s Business Associations

“Measure 67 would **cost between 22,000 and 43,000 jobs**.” — Randall Pozdena, Academic Advisor to Cascade Policy Institute

“If you pass this tax, **unemployment in Oregon is going to go up**, not down. There’s no question about that.” — State Sen. Bruce Starr

“Economists estimate these two tax measures could **cost 70,000 more Oregonians their jobs** over the next 10 years.” — Bob Wiggins on behalf of Oregonians Against Job-Killing Taxes.

Examples from around the country

“Economic studies show [Question 3] would cause **the loss of thousands of existing jobs** and make it extremely hard to attract new businesses and jobs to Nevada.” — Coalition to Defeat the Nevada Margins Tax, Question 3 Margins Tax (2014)

“Colorado hasn’t yet recovered and our families are still struggling. They need jobs and **this tax hike may prevent some small businesses from hiring**.” — Coloradans for Real Education Reform, Amendment 66 Income Tax (2013)

"California cannot afford to lose more jobs or to further damage our economic recovery. Now is not the time for tax increases which will only harm California families and small businesses." — No on Prop 30, Proposition 30 Income and Sales Tax (2012)

"California needs reform, not tax increases that eliminate middle class jobs." — Jack Stewart, President California Manufacturers & Technology Association, Proposition 38 Business Tax (2012)

"The measure would cost the state 119,000 jobs after five years." — Opponents of Colorado's Proposition 103 Income and Sales Tax (2011)

"[The Obama tax plan would be] a bullet in the head for an awful lot of people that are going to be laid off and an awful lot of people who are hoping to get their jobs back." — U.S. Chamber of Commerce economist Martin Regalia in response to the expiration of the Bush-era tax cuts (2010)

"The Obama tax plan would eliminate hundreds of thousands of jobs each year." — Heritage Foundation Report in response to the expiration of the Bush-era tax cuts, (2010)

"The impact on job creation is going to be devastating, and the American young people in particular will suffer...there simply won't be jobs for the next two to three years to go around to our young graduates." — Dick Armey in response to tax increases proposed by the Clinton Administration (1993)

The Reality

Many of the above claims were made in the past six years, during which the United States has enjoyed the longest sustained period of job growth on record: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2016/08/05/employment-situation-july>

Measures 66 & 67 preceded job growth in Oregon: <http://voteyeson97.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Debunking-the-claims-about-Measures-66.pdf>

Portland State University predicts that Measure 97 will increase jobs: <https://www.pdx.edu/nerc/sites/www.pdx.edu/nerc/files/Our%20Oregon%20Final%20Report%206-29.pdf>

Unemployment in Oregon has dropped under 5 percent. Portland State University's Northwest Economic Research Center predicts that Measure 97 will increase jobs. Data show that since Measures 66 & 67 passed, unemployment has shrunk, particularly in the Portland metro area.

PLAY #3: PREDICT ECONOMIC CATASTROPHE

Measure 97, 2016

"IP28 would make Oregon **one of the most difficult states in the country to do business** — and could drive companies with narrow profit margins into the red, out of the state, or out of business ... IP28 **threatens to derail Oregon's ongoing economic recovery.**"
— Grow Oregon campaign literature

Measures 66 & 67, 2010

"Measures 66 and 67 will **make our state less inviting to employers big and small** and force Oregon businesses to lay-off workers, reduce wages and benefits and even close their doors." — Oregonians Against Job-Killing Taxes

"My fear is **small businesses can go to Idaho** and find tax treatment that's less than half, or **go across to Clark County** and have it completely eliminated." — State Rep. Scott Bruun

"We strongly oppose each of these tax hikes. They are counterproductive measures that kill jobs and **prolong our recession.**" — The Associated Oregon Industries letter written under the auspices of the Alliance of Oregon's Business Associations

Examples from around the country

"A progressive income tax would be **the straw that breaks the Illinois economy's back**, sending our state even further into the economic doldrums." — Spokesperson for Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner in response to a proposed tax increase on high earners (2016)

"Margin Tax Initiative would make Nevada one of the highest taxed states in which to operate. **This would severely damage our state's struggling economy**, cause the loss of thousands of existing jobs and make it nearly impossible to attract new businesses and jobs to Nevada." — Coalition to Defeat the Nevada Margins Tax, Question 3 Margins Tax (2014)

"California cannot afford to lose more jobs or to **further damage our economic recovery.** Now is not the time for tax increases which will only harm California families and small businesses." — No on Prop 30, Proposition 30 Income and Sales Tax (2012)

"[T]he graduated tax imposed by I-1098 violates established tax policy principles and would seriously destabilize our revenue system, threatening state services and **assuring future fiscal crises.**" — Washington Research Council, I-1098 Income Tax (2010)

“This is **really the Dr. Kevorkian plan for our economy**. It will kill jobs, kill businesses, and yes, kill even the higher tax revenues that these **suicidal tax increasers** hope to gain.” — Former Congressman and former SEC chair, Christopher Cox in response to tax increases proposed by the Clinton Administration (1993)

The Reality

Raising taxes on corporations does not hurt economic growth: <http://www.epi.org/publication/ib364-corporate-tax-rates-and-economic-growth/>

States with higher taxes generally have stronger economies: <http://www.itepnet.org/pdf/junkeconomics.pdf>

In the years following measures 66 and 67, Oregon’s economy climbed out of the recession and the current economic forecast is positive: <https://www.qualityinfo.org/-/oregon-employment-forecast-full-throttle>

Raising taxes strengthens our economy because more revenue means more of the investments that actually grow the economy. A well-educated workforce is the key to state prosperity: <http://www.epi.org/publication/states-education-productivity-growth-foundations/>

Measure 97 will build a better Oregon by raising wages and increasing jobs. Investments in education and public services will make Oregon a better place to do business while improving the lives of hundreds of thousands of Oregonians.

CLAIMS MADE ABOUT M66 AND M67

- “Measure 66 would cost the Oregon economy 36,000 jobs by 2015” - Bill Conerly (Cascade Policy Institute, 7/11/2009)
- “Measure 67 would cost between 22,000 and 43,000 jobs, and \$1.6 and \$3.2 billion in personal income, over a ten year period.” Randall Pozdena (Cascade Policy Institute, 6/23/2009)
- “An analysis by The Oregonian shows that the tax increase is equivalent to 3,800 to 4,700 jobs statewide if voters approve Measure 67.” - Bill Graves (The Oregonian, 12/12/2009)
- “These bills aren’t about taxing the wealthy,” said Kevin Mannix. “They’re about taxing the engine of Oregon’s economy, small and family-owned businesses. They’re job killers.” (Statesman Journal, 6/7/2009)
- “This is a bad time to raise taxes because everybody is hurting,” said Sen. Fred Girod, R-Stayton. “This will put people out of work.” (Oregonian, 6/6/2009)
- “If you pass this tax, unemployment in Oregon is going to go up, not down,” Sen. Bruce Starr, R-Hillsboro, said. “There’s no question about that.” (Associated Press, 5/11/2009)
- “It will hurt Oregon jobs, it will hurt Oregon’s competitiveness, it will delay a recovery,” said Rep. Scott Bruun, a West Linn Republican who serves on the House Revenue Panel. — (The World, 5/5/2009)
- The Associated Oregon Industries letter — written under the auspices of the Alliance of Oregon’s Business Associations — tends to support the option of spending less. “We do not believe that increased taxes are needed to balance the state’s budget,” the letter reads. “We strongly oppose each of these tax hikes,” the letter continues. “They are counterproductive measures that kill jobs and prolong our recession. In fact, the Legislative Revenue Office estimates that these tax hikes will kill 5,865 critical Oregon jobs.” (Associated Oregon Industries, DJC Oregon, 5/5/2009)
- “[T]he loss of Oregon jobs and businesses is apt to be unfathomable.” (Sarah Ross of the Cascade Policy Institute, Statesman Journal, 7/14/2009)
- Andy High, VP of Government Affairs for the Central Oregon Builders Association (COBA), said home builders he talks to have uniformly said they would have to lay people off to get the money to pay the tax. (KBND.com, 1/7/2010)
- “In the process of selling Measures 66 and 67 they are shamefully dividing Oregonians into three classes, two-thirds of which are to be “shot” or “milked.”.... I am strongly opposed to Measures 66 and 67. I don’t want to put Oregon on the side of killing jobs-an estimated 45,000, according to two leading economists. I have said, time and time again, that government cannot create jobs, but government can create the atmosphere for the creation of jobs by private enterprise. These two ballot measures would do the opposite. ” - Vic Atiyeh, former Oregon governor (The Oregonian, 1/12/2010)

- "Our concern is that it's going to cost 70,000 Oregonians their job," said Telfer. - State Senator Chris Telfer (KOHD.com 1/17/2010)
- Measures 66 and 67 will create more economic hardship for Oregonians. Prices will go up, compensation will be cut, and jobs will be lost. Economists estimate it will mean a loss of 70,000 jobs beyond the 131,500 jobs Oregon has already lost in this recession. - Carolyn Oakley, Albany resident (Democrat Herald 1/15/2010)
- A shopper might spend \$100 on groceries, but after paying wholesale distributors and overhead costs, the store makes just \$1 on the transaction if it's doing well, Gilliam said. Raise taxes or other costs too much, "and there's not much place to go other than laying people off or not hiring people" (The Register-Guard 1/4/2010)
- "We lost 130,000 jobs in Oregon last year," said Kruse. "If these measures pass, it is projected that another 70,000 jobs will be lost. There is no secret pot of money for small businesses. They still have the same cost of production. As a farmer I still need fertilizer, fuel and water. My biggest cost is the cost of labor. If I can't pass on the higher taxes to my customers by raising the price of my products, then I have to cut down on employees. It's basic economics."...Kruse said that the state will be facing a \$3 billion deficit because the revenue forecasts have not been met in this recession. Ironically, he says any money generated if Measures 66 and 67 pass will do little to impact that deficit. Kruse said the money raised will lower the budget about three cents on the dollar. - State Senator Jeff Kruse (Curry County Reporter 1/7/2010)
- "Measures 66 and 67 are a solution that won't work to a problem we don't have," said business owner and Eugene City Councilor Mike Clark. Clark believes the increase in taxes will cost jobs. "If you're going to increase taxes on businesses, one of two things is going to happen," Clark said. "They're going to increase the amount of money they charge the customers, or they're going to have to lay people off and lose more jobs. We've already lost a lot of jobs." (KVAL.com 1/8/2010)
- "This is a job killer," he said. "I'm not a fan of President Obama, but even he said the dumbest thing you can do in a recession is raise taxes."... "When businesses get taxed, they pass the cost on to you," he said. - Richard Burke, Americans for Prosperity (La Grande Observer 1/8/2010)
- "More Oregonians report having themselves or someone in their family who has either been laid off or is working fewer hours, and has been negatively affected in their personal economic circumstances because of what's gone on in this recession," McCormick said... "Even though they can look at these measures and perhaps say 'That doesn't affect me directly,' I think their anxiety is that they can very well affect the guy who signs my checks," McCormick said. (FOX 12 1/13/2010)
- "Even though they can look at these measures and perhaps say 'That doesn't affect me directly,' I think their anxiety is that they can very well affect the guy who signs my checks," McCormick said. (ABC News 1/14/2010)
- "Our concern is that it's going to cost 70,000 Oregonians their job," said Telfer. - State Senator Chris Telfer (KOHD.com 1/15/2010)
- ...these descriptions of Measures 66 and 67 are disingenuous at best and lies at worst...Aside from the class warfare that creates or the war on achievement it

declares, it's simply not true. Sixty percent of people with incomes over \$250,000 own businesses, and 80 percent of private-sector jobs come from small businesses. Tax them more and here's what happens: no raises for employees and no business expansion. Worse, layoffs. Worse yet, they go out of business. Result: higher unemployment and less revenue for government. - Lauran Paine, Salem resident (OregonLive.com 1/7/2010)

- These measures will kill 70,000 jobs, according to conservative estimates. These are jobs that all you students will be fighting for in a few years and are jobs that many of your parents have. - RJ Friedman, senior in Political Science (The Daily Barometer 1/7/2010)
- It is almost certain, however, that the additional taxes would not go to productive purposes. Instead, the looming Public Employee Retirement system crisis makes it likely that most of the new tax revenue will be eaten up in higher state contributions to PERS, needed to maintain public employee retirement benefits...William Conerly looked at Measure 66 (the personal income tax increase) and concluded that it will cost the state more than 30,000 jobs. Randall Pozdena looked at the business income tax increase portion of Measure 67 and found that it will cost the state more than 40,000 jobs. - Steve Buckstein, senior policy analyst and founder at Cascade Policy Institute (The Outlook Online 1/11/2010)
- We estimate Measures 66 and 67 would lose approximately 47,000 fewer jobs in the state through 2018. That number rises as high as 55,000 if taxpayers doubt that the partial retreat in rates promised in the measures actually will occur...if both measures pass, Oregon would lose about 8,000 more of these mobile taxpayers per year than otherwise-as many as 80,000 filers over a 10-year period. These taxpayers are largely higher-income taxpayers...Many tout Measures 66 and 67 as taxes "on corporations and the rich," but these groups play a key role in providing middle-class and entry-level jobs. - Eric Fruits, adjunct professor in economics and finance at Portland State University; Randall Pozdena, senior economist at ECONorthwest (OregonLive.com 1/13/2010)
- We estimate Measures 66 and 67 would mean approximately 47,000 fewer jobs in the state through 2018. That number rises as high as 55,000 if taxpayers doubt that the partial retreat in rates promised in the measures actually will occur....Many tout Measures 66 and 67 on taxes on "corporations and the rich," but these groups play a key role in providing middle-class and entry-level jobs. - Eric Fruits and Randall Pozdena, Portland-area economists (Statesman Journal 1/19/2010)
- Why to we recommend a no vote on measures 66 and 67? Oregon is in a financial crisis. Like most states, Oregon's revenues are down and its costs are up. While Oregon families and businesses have cut back to deal with these hard times, our state government passed \$1.6 billion in new taxes and fees, expanded programs, added 1,540 additional state employees, increased spending by \$4.7 billion, and increased long-term debt by \$4 billion. Oregon's problem is not the need for more revenue, but the need for more discipline in spending. Passing measures 66 and 67 will cost jobs and hurt Oregon's economy. The consequence of the state's insatiable appetite for more revenue will be a slower economic recovery and the loss of thousands of jobs for Oregon workers. The tax increases contained in measures 66 and 67 send the

wrong message to high-earning Oregonians and their businesses. It tells them that if they live in Oregon, they will save money and moving out of state, and if they are considering business investment, they would be wise to take their money and jobs elsewhere. - Rep. Dennis Richardson (Mail Tribune 1/17/2010)

- Reputable economists forecast 66 and 67 will cost the state thousands-maybe tens of thousands-of jobs, and that thousands of our most successful residents will leave the state....There are words to describe what we are doing with 66 and 67: it is called a death spiral. - Phil Knight (OregonLive.com 1/17/2010)
- With more than 100,000 jobs in Oregon already lost, do you want more job loss because business owners making more than \$250,000 per year will have to choose between paying taxes over hiring people. - J.D. Thompson, Ashland resident (Daily Tidings 1/13/2010)
- Two hundred fifty-nine million dollars of these tax hikes will go to raise salaries of government workers. How about making sure hurting Oregonians get a job first before hiking salaries for those who work for the state? - Susan King (Democrat Herald 1/13/2010)
- These proposed tax hikes are the result of politicians' inability to grasp basic economics, control spending and budget like the rest of us...We will all pay the price if these tax hikes are passed-in more lost jobs, fewer viable employers and higher prices. (Mail Tribune 1/17/2010)
- They say they're just going to tax the rich and business corporations. People who make more money spend more money into the economy, which helps businesses, which in turn keeps people employed. Tax people more and they will spend less. Tax businesses more and they will either lay off employees or be forced out of business. It is estimated that if these taxes are passed, it will cause the loss of an additional 70,000 jobs in Oregon. - Jay Maxner, Powers resident (NR Today 1/19/2010)
- Between 47,000 and 55,000 jobs will be lost by 2018 from the increase in top marginal tax rates alone in the two measures. The study did not attempt to measure the job loss impacts caused from the phase-out of the federal tax deduction for higher incomes in Measure 66 or from the increased corporate minimum taxes in Measure 67. Net out-migration of tax filers will be approximately 80,00 greater than otherwise over a ten year period...The average biennial loss in Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) from Measures 66 and 67 is approximately \$1.1 billion dollars- 50 percent higher than the \$733 million first-biennial transfer of income from the private sector sought by the measures...such losses reduce the likelihood of the measures generating their full, anticipated revenue. - Steve Buckstein, founder and senior policy analyst at Cascade Policy Institute (Oregon Catalyst 1/4/2010); Victoria Taft (Blog Spot 1/4/2010)
-66% of tax filers targeted in the personal income tax increase are small and family-owned businesses and farms who report their business profits on their personal income statements....William B. Conerly, PhD, a Portland-based economic consultant and former Senior Vice President of First Interstate Bank, estimated the personal income tax increases in Measure 66 would cost up to 36,000 Oregonians their jobs by 2015 (The Oregon Association of REALTORS 1/5/2010)

- Credible economists contend that in the neighborhood of 70,000 jobs will be lost in Oregon if these measures both pass. - Mr. Smith (Blog Spot 1/8/2010)
- As stated above, knowledgeable economists have demonstrated that Oregon will lose thousands of jobs, over time, if the voters pass these permanent tax increases on Oregon's high-income-earners (business owners), and Oregon's successful corporations (job creating employers). - State Rep. Dennis Richardson (Oregon Catalyst 1/12/2010)
- "These proposals ignore the stark realities of our current recession...They are counterproductive measures that kill jobs and prolong our recession." - J.L. Wilson, Associated Oregon Industries (Portland Business Journal 6/2/2009)
- "This will hurt Oregon jobs. This will hurt Oregon competitiveness. In a best case scenario, this will delay our recovery." - Rep. Scott Bruun (Oregon Public Broadcasting 6/5/2009)
- "We do not believe that increased taxes are needed to balance the state's budget. We strongly oppose each of these tax hikes. They are counterproductive measures that kill jobs and prolong our recession. In fact, the Legislative Revenue Office estimates that these tax hikes will kill 5,865 critical Oregon jobs." - Associated Oregon Industries (Daily Journal of Commerce 6/5/2009)
- "During these tough recessionary times, we need to help businesses survive. Higher taxes on companies mean less money to keep and hire workers or make new investments....I can tell you from running my own small business anytime taxes go up there is a spin-off effect on the surrounding community...The best way to help Oregon's economy recover is putting people back to work, not discouraging job creation with higher business taxes. " - Rep. Greg Smith (Salem-News.com 6/9/2009)
- "We can't tax our way out of a recession....All these taxes trickle down to the individual. Think about the multiplier effect. Services used by every Oregonians will now have a hidden sales tax. The banks, grocery stores, insurance companies, gas stations-services used by everyday Oregonians-will not have to include the cost of covering these taxes....If those businesses are forced to pay more taxes, then there is less disposable income or businesses to use to hire workers and they may have to lay off workers." - Rep. Kim Thatcher (Salem-News.com 6/10/2009)
- "These taxes will undermine the small businesses that create jobs and help communities around Oregon thrive. A report released today stated that over the next six years, Oregon will lose 36,000 additional jobs because of these tax increases. These tax increases take our state in exactly the wrong direction." - State Senator Chris Telfer (KTVZ.com 6/11/2009)
- "These taxes will undermine the small businesses that create jobs and help communities around Oregon thrive. A report released today stated that over the next six years, Oregon will lose 36,000 additional jobs because of these tax increases. These tax increases take our state in exactly the wrong direction." - Senator Chris Telfer (KGW.com 6/12/2009)
- "Higher taxes mean employers will be forced to cut jobs. The tragedy is, we don't need tax increases to pay for the services that matter most to Oregonians." - Senator

Jeff Kruse (KGW.com 6/12/2009)

- "If you pass this tax, unemployment in Oregon is going to go up, not down. There's no question about it. This is a bad bill, doesn't make much sense." - Sen. Bruce Starr (KGW.com 6/12/2009)
- "We've already lost 40,000 jobs in the timber industry. This is ridiculous." - Sen. Fred Girod (Capital Press Agriculture News 6/12/2009, Capital Press 6/12/2009)
- "Democrats are turning a tin ear to Oregon's struggling economy. Higher taxes means employers will be forced to cut jobs." - Sen. Jeff Kruse (KVAL 13)
- "I think Oregonians understand that taxation kills jobs and hurts the economy as we try to come out of this recession and or depression that we're in." - Mark Nelson, lobbyist (Oregon Public Broadcasting 6/29/2009)
- "People are going to have a very low tolerance for any tax increase, especially at a time when they have either lost their job or are worried about losing their job." - Russ Walker, FreedomWorks (Gazette Times 7/1/2016)
- "\$250,000 category are small businesses. When taxes are raised it makes it harder to employ, either have to cut hours or lay them off all together in corp tax the problem is businesses planning to come to Oregon to set up business will go to a state that doesn't have as high of corporate tax and cause businesses to leave other states." - Kerry Ferguson, President of Republican Women (News Watch 12 ABC 7/16/2009)
- "The bills passed by the Oregon Legislature will result in over 11,000 job loses with Oregon small businesses. Companies are already making plans to leave the state. The actions of the Democrat majority amount to campaign payoffs bordering on racketeering...." - Sen. Brian Boquist (StatesmanJournal.com 6/14/2009)
- "When we use the same strategy that Oregon families and small businesses are using to budget in these tough times, we don't have to talk about raising taxes that will destroy Oregon jobs and hamstringing our ability to get out of this recession." - Sen. Chris Telfer (Cascade Business News 7/15/2009)
- "Under the Democrat's plan, Oregon will tie Hawaii for the having highest personal income tax rate in the nation. These job-killing tax increases will harm our small businesses and further boost Oregon's chances of achieving the highest unemployment rate in the nation." - House Republican Leader Bruce Hanna (Oregon Catalyst.com 6/5/2009)
- "If you pass this tax, unemployment in Oregon is going to go up, not down. There's no question about that. This is a bad bill, doesn't make much sense." - Sen. Bruce Starr (AP 6/11/2009)
- "This is a bad time to raise taxes because everybody is hurting. This will put people out of work." - Sen. Fred Girod (The Oregonian 6/5/2009)
- "I guess we're just trying to be No. 1 in unemployment instead of No. 2. We don't like being behind Michigan." - Rep. Sal Esquivel ("Live blogging the Oregon House tax debate" 6/9/2009)
- "These taxes would not only hurt small and family-owned businesses, they would

mean the loss of jobs. You don't do that in tough economic times." - Russ Walker, FreedomWorks (Statesman Journal.com 6/7/2009)

- "In the end, businesses will have to come up with money to pay this. The only place for them to cut money to generate revenue to pay this (tax) is in eliminating 11,000 jobs that are out there." - Sen. Brian Boquist (Statesman Journal.com 6/11/2009)
- Joe Gilliam, president of the Northwest Grocery Association, said Oregon's supermarket chains would be hit unfairly hard because they have a high volume of sales yet a low profit margin. A shopper might spend \$100 on groceries, but after paying wholesale distributors and overhead costs, the store makes just \$1 on the transaction if it's doing well, Gilliam said. Raise taxes or other costs too much, "and there's not much place to go other than laying people off or not hiring people," he said.
- "The burden of Measure 67 is too heavy on smaller businesses and will affect many of them, he said, especially because it is based on total sales, even if a profit isn't made. "This is a more than 47 percent increase in state business taxes," McCormick said. Increasing employment in a downturned economy is much more important, he said. "When you add expenses to businesses it makes it much more difficult to bring jobs back," McCormick said. (The Daily Astorian 1/5/2010)
- "It is unfortunate that the final business and individual tax packages adopted by the Legislature are not ones that will foster job creation in Oregon" - Nike spokeswoman Erin Dobson (The Register-Guard 1/4/2010)
- On the corporate tax, my company is not affected by the corporate minimum, and can certainly live with overall increases in the corporate rate. It is the impact on other companies I am concerned about. The change in the corporate minimum, with its focus on sales, not profits, hurts just the type of businesses that the state claims to covet, start-ups with high revenues but little or no profits at their early development stage. - Columbia Sportswear CEO Tim Boyle (Willamette Weekly 1/6/2010)
- "If (increases are) levied on businesses and the individuals who create jobs...it will have an economic effect," Woodburn accountant Ted Ahre said.... Ahre explained that the increases won't only affect companies raking in the money-businesses like auto dealerships and construction companies, which may show large amounts of sales but turn a small or no profit, could be hit hard by the higher taxes. "They could have a zero profit, they could have a loss, and they would still have to pay a lot more, and that's disturbing to me," he said. (Woodburn Independent 1/11/2010)
- "There are fewer than 39,000 taxpayers affected by Measure 66, but more than 26,000 of them are small business owners," said Pat McCormick, spokesman for the opposition group Oregonians Against Job-Killing Taxes. "People may think their minimum taxes are the only ones going up. They're not connecting the dots." (Portland Business Journal 1/15/2010)
- One aspect the ad campaign fails to communicate is that businesses that sell large-ticket items (ie, automobiles and large equipment) with small profit margins will be forced to pay additional taxes, and it will impact both the middle class and small businesses like ours, Hubbard Chevrolet, and eventually all taxpayers. - Terri Berkey

Gonzalez, GM of Hubbard Chevrolet (OregonLive.com 1/3/2010)

- I own two businesses that will be impacted by the tax increases. Under Measure 66 thousands of small businesses will get hit with a significant jump in taxes. Under Measure 67 thousands of corporations will face a hidden sales tax and now pay more taxes even if they had no income, no profits. Clearly these measures will do more harm than good. - State Rep. Kim Thatcher (Keizer Times 1/15/2010)
- Voters beware: Descriptions in the Voters' Pamphlet of Ballot Measures 66 and 67 are blatantly false, and perhaps unconstitutionally drafted. For starters, the description of Measure 67's corporate tax increase omits a brand-new tax of up to \$100,000 on businesses not making a profit; only vaguely implies that the tax increases are permanent and retroactive; and says sole proprietors won't be affected-even though they will if filing under an assumed business name....Measure 67's graduated corporate minimum tax is equally damaging. One component (omitted from the ballot description) establishes a minimum tax on gross sales, not net income, so companies with high sales value but not profits could pay taxes of \$100,000. (Propaganda implying that successful companies currently pay taxes of only \$10 doesn't mention that the \$10 minimum rate is reserved for firms with no taxable income.) At \$100,000 per year, Oregon's high-sales companies will shoulder the highest taxes in the nation, Oregon Business Magazine reported last November, far exceeding the \$5,000 they'd pay in the second-place state, New York. - Don Tykeson (The Register Guard 1/17/2010)
- There are more small businesses in Oregon than big businesses. This tax, retroactive to Jan. 1, 2009, will put a burden on more businesses who will end up in the red after this new tax. They will be required to pay taxes on nonexistent profits. They will need to cut more jobs, close their doors or pass the tax onto consumers in the form of higher prices. This is a sales tax, which Oregonians have voted down nine times. - Jo Rae Perkins, Albany resident (Democrat Herald 1/12/2010)
- That means our minimum tax would go from \$10 to \$1,500. I find this tax to be unfair to small, independent businesses and farmers who are class C corporations. - Dave Easton, Ace Hardware Forest Grove (Forest Grove News Times 1/14/2010)
- Walker, the anti-tax official, said opponents plan to campaign against the income tax hike not as "a tax some rich guy pays," but by framing it as a job-killing increase on small businesses, whose owners, according to the Legislative Revenue Office, make up a majority of those whose taxes would go up...."It's not just about taxing. It's also about spending. And Americans and Oregonians are convinced their politicians are spending way too much money," - Russ Walker (The Register-Guard 5/30/2009)
- "Less than a third of income earned by these Oregonians is generated by wages, the rest of their income is business-related. By increasing taxes on small business owners, there will be less resources for job creation and reinvestment in Oregon equipment and services." - Rep. Bruce Hanna (Portland Business Journal 6/9/2009)
- "During these tough recessionary times, we need to help businesses survive. Higher taxes on companies mean less money to keep and hire workers or make new investments. I can tell you from running my own small business, any time taxes go up there is a spin-off effect on the surrounding community." - Rep. Greg Smith (East

Oregonian 6/10/2009)

- "Small businesses is the backbone of Oregon's economy. Less than a third of income earned by these Oregonians is generated by wages; the rest of their income is business-related. By increasing taxes on small business owners, here will be fewer resources for job creation and reinvestment in Oregon equipment and services. These tax increases were not necessary, yet Democrats are pushing ahead despite the consequences to Oregon jobs and our economy." -Rep. Bruce Hanna (KTVZ.com 6/11/2009)
- "These taxes will undermine the small businesses that create jobs and help communities around Oregon thrive." - Sen. Chris Telfer (Capital Press Agriculture News 6/12/2009, Capital Press 6/12/2009)
- "We're asking people who are potentially operating at a loss to pay an increase in taxes." - Sen. Jeff Kruse (Capital Press Agriculture News 6/12/2009, Capital Press 6/12/2009)
- "We were hoping for something in the \$300 to \$500 range, as opposed to gross receipts. We've already had to cut out \$148,000 in labor costs in 2009. The people who say we're just paying our fair share of the bill aren't taking into account when people are put out of work. There are unemployment benefits and health care. It's a killer for someone specifically in the restaurant business. You can't just raise prices because pretty soon people are not going to go out to eat, it's just too expensive. I was hoping some common sense would come into play." - Bruce Hoevet, Rogue Regency Inn (Mail Tribune 6/16/2009)
- "Apparently, Oregon closed for business last week. The folks who wanted this thing passed did a masterful job of giving Oregonians the impression that corporations don't pay taxes and that is flat wrong. I have already spoken to member companies and this is going to cost particular businesses here anywhere from \$15,000 to \$100,000, in addition to what they are paying now....Anytime you create more regulatory burden and more of a tax burden, you remove economic development arrows out of your quiver." - Brad Hicks, CEO, Chamber of Medford/Jackson county (Mail Tribune 6/16/2009)
- "It sounds great to say they are only going to tax a person who makes more than \$125,000 per year. That guy is, in all likelihood, a small business operator. That would go to all kinds of people that we really don't want to be hammering in this economy." - Jeff Kropf, state director Americans for Prosperity (IVN 6/24/2009)
- "It's like they're going after Intel and I got smashed instead....Sales are not the same as profits. Taxing companies that make no money is like dumping the tax burden on a minimum-wage earner" - Brent DeHart ("The Oregonian 6/13/2009, "A short history of Oregon taxes on business" 6/14/2009)
- "If it had been temporary, we would have complained but we wouldn't have fought it. This just really clobbers us." - Jon Chandler, Oregon Home Builders Association ("Powerful business coalition takes on tax hikes 6/26/2009, "Business coalition to fight Oregon tax increases 6/26/2009)
- "These bills aren't about taxing the wealthy. It's about taxing the engine of Oregon's

economy, small and family-owned businesses.” - Kevin Mannix, former chairman of the Oregon GOP (Statesman Journal.com 6/6/2009, Statesman Journal.com 6/7/2009)

- “These taxes would not only hurt small and family-owned businesses, they would mean the loss of jobs. You don’t do that in tough economic times.” - Russ Walker, FreedomWorks (Statesman Journal.com 6/7/2009)
- “This isn’t how I would do it. I’m OK with it, except for the permanent tax increases. If there were no economic emergency, would we raise these taxes on business?” - Mark Hass (Statesman Journal.com 6/11/2009)
- “My fear is small businesses can go to Idaho and find tax treatment that’s less than half, or go across to Clark County and have it completely eliminated,” said Rep. Scott Bruun, R-West Linn.
- Paul Romain, Executive Director of the Oregon Petroleum Association said if voters approve M66 and M67 many gas stations will have to close up. (KBND.com, 1/7/2010)
- “With the increase on corporations and increase on high earners, we would have the highest income taxes in the United States and the second highest capital gains tax,” Krieger said. “I understand Nike is talking about moving out of the state if this passes. They pay \$40 million a year in taxes and have thousands of employees. In the long term, we would wind up shooting ourselves in the foot.” - State Rep. Wayne Krieger (Curypilot.com 1/6/2010)
- Skovborg says in this economy, taxing businesses more just doesn’t make sense. “What that means is, the only other options for these businesses is to raise the cost of their product or service to you as a consumer or customer, which this community cannot bear the weight of that. Or in certain situations, they’re going to have to close. If they’re small enough, they would have to close.” - Betsy Skovborg at Bend Pepsi Cola (KTVZ.com 1/7/2010)
- “I’ve been working on this since 2003 and these measures don’t address the systematic problem,” Morse said. “We have disinvested in education and tried to do more than we could. The issues are adequacy and stability.”... “If the Measures passed, the corporate tax would be so high that new companies wouldn’t move here and the mobile ones would leave,” Morse said. “The measures substantially increase the volatility.” - State Senator Frank Morse (The Daily Barometer 1/12/2010)
- If these new taxes are approved, why would any new corporation want to move to Oregon? We already have property taxes, then add a tax on gross receipts? Likewise what better way to encourage companies to go to foreign land to reduce their cost of production. In time it will also add to the cost of living for all citizens of Oregon. - Donald Wirth (Democrat Herald 1/11/2010)
- When will all this madness stop? When will those in charge in the state of Oregon realize they must stay within their budgets? If you raise the taxes on businesses, they’re going to move out, or pass the cost along to the customer with higher prices. If you raise taxes on those who worked hard for a better life, they will just leave the state. Either way, the people of Oregon lose. - Chuck Sumstine, Glide resident (NR

Today 1/19/2010)

- A company doing business in another state is known in the statutes as a "foreign" entity. So not only will Measure 67 raise the cost of doing business in Oregon, it will raise it even higher if you made the mistake of starting out doing business someplace else. - Steve Buckstein (Cascade Policy Institute 1/12/2010)
- "My fear is that these small businesses or medium-sized businesses can go to Idaho and find the tax treatment that's less than half of what this bill will do, or simply go across the bridge to Clark County (in Washington state) and have it completely eliminated," he said. - Rep. Scott Brunn (The Register-Guard 5/28/2009)
- "There is a moral principle here, and we believe that it is immoral to ask people who are already hurting to pay money when the government is growing...Our organization believes that government can become more efficient and that government should not be raising taxes until they have met maximum efficiency....Businesses will go somewhere like Idaho where the taxes are lower to start....Or even worse, business will relocate from Oregon. It just seems unrealistic to discourage business to come to the state when unemployment continues to soar. " - Jeff Krop, Americans for Prosperity (Oregon Daily Emerald, 6/2/2009)
- "The bridge to Vancouver will be loaded with people and companies moving to Washington. They're piling this all onto small businesses. We're in a recession. Our video lottery receipts are down, we've been hit by the no-smoking ordinance, the minimum wage increase has cost us \$1,000 per employee for this year, plus there's surcharge for beer and liquor. Now there's the corporation tax. You lump this together and there's going to be devastating consequences for businesses in Oregon. I call it death by a thousand cuts." - John Larkin, Roxy Ann Lanes (Mail Tribune 6/16/2009)
- "Oregon, the land of trees and no jobs. This is a great way to run businesses out of the state." - (Portland Business Journal 6/19/2009)
- "You don't see as much new construction for companies that pay corporate taxes in Oregon. It all comes down to the cost of doing business...The income tax is still based on people making money. If there's no jobs, there's no income-and everybody can't work for the state....There's a lot of people out of the Portland area that think about going across the river all the time. Oregon drives companies like that away. Think about it: If Nike left, what's left?" - Jason Pond, CEO Greenberry Construction and Greenberry Industrial (Democrat Herald 6/20/2009)
- "The economic crisis has already affected a lot of businesses in our area. As you all know, driving down the street, you see empty storefronts, there's restaurants going out of businesses and there's people teetering right on the edge." - Bruce Hoevet, Rogue Regency Inn GM (News Watch ABC 6/26/2009)
- "From the bigger perspective, this session was a disaster for the economy. The gross receipts tax will not only keep the economy upside-down longer, but will chase what remaining businesses we have in Oregon out of state. I think this session was also an attack on rural Oregon like I've never seen before." - Sen. Jason Atkinson (IVN 7/8/2009)
- "A better approach for the state's long-term fiscal health is to spread the burden

across more of state government's beneficiaries or to make deeper cuts in state spending....The new tax provisions will encourage businesses and individuals more concerned with income taxes to flee to more fiscally friendly states." (Portland Business Journal 7/9/2009)

- "There were many bills that will make it harder to do business in Oregon....The only growing business in this state seems to be government and I find that very troubling." - Rep. George Gilman (Central Oregonian)
- "\$250,000 category are small businesses. When taxes are raised it makes it harder to employ, either have to cut hours or lay them off all together in corp tax the problem is businesses planning to come to Oregon to set up business will go to a state that doesn't have as high of corporate tax and cause businesses to leave other states." - Kerry Ferguson, President of Republican Women (News Watch 12 ABC 7/16/2009)
- "It will force businesses to lay off workers, cut wages and benefits or close their doors." - Pat McCormick (AP 7/20/2009, KGW.com 7/21/2009, AP 7/21/2009)
- "The bills passed by the Oregon Legislature will result in over 11,000 job loses with Oregon small businesses. Companies are already making plans to leave the state. The actions of the Democrat majority amount to campaign payoffs bordering on racketeering...." - Sen. Brian Boquist (StatesmanJournal.com 6/14/2009)
- "It's disappointing that the Legislature chose to hurt businesses at a time when most industrial sectors have shed thousands of jobs. In addition to massive tax increases and excessive regulation, Oregon businesses will be exposed to endless and costly litigation. This session has send the wrong message to businesses as they decide whether to locate here, stay in operation, or move to other states where their jobs would be more welcome." - Deputy Republican Leader Kevin Cameron (Cascade Business News 7/15/2009)
- "We need to attract and retain employers, not drive them to other states that would welcome the jobs they would provide. That's why Republicans developed the Back to Basics budget, which funds Oregon's most critical services without tax increases that threaten Oregon jobs." - House Republican Leader Bruce Hanna (Oregon Catalyst.com 6/5/2009)
- "In a time when businesses are fleeing the state and closing, the state is throwing another nail in the coffin....That's just the way business works. You can't pretend it's just a tax on business." - Rep. Ron Maurer (IVN 6/17/2009)
- "People in America choose where to live and where to invest. There is always a small number who are considering moving. There are also some people considering larger investments or smaller investments. Higher tax rates induce some of these people to live outside of Oregon or to invest less in Oregon." - William Conerly, Governor's Council of Economic Advisers (Statesman Journal.com 7/1/2009)
- Morse said taxing businesses and upper-income residents would do long-term damage to Oregon's economy while providing only a short-term fix. What's really needed, he said, is further reform of the "kicker" law to create a meaningful rainy day fund to shore up state revenue during hard times. "For some reason, they believe that this is tax reform- soak the rich and tax business," he said in his recorded speech.

"Colleagues, this is not tax reform." (Gazette Times 1/6/2010)

- McCormick says that the measure is the "exact opposite" of what Oregon's Task Force on Comprehensive Revenue Restructuring recommended. He says the Task Force "recommended focusing on improving the stability of Oregon's tax system by reducing its over reliance on personal income taxes, especially personal income taxes on capital gains." He says Measure 66 "dramatically increases the component of capital gains" because upper income taxpayers report more capital gains income. That means he says, "Oregon's taxes will be more volatile." (Eugene Weekly 1/7/2010)
- "Raising taxes during a recession, in a state based on income tax, just isn't good for jobs," she said... "In the long run, it's not healthy." Clarno said of tax increases. "It probably wouldn't be healthy in strong times." - Lorraine Clarno, president of the Beaverton Chamber of Commerce (Beaverton Valley Times 1/14/2010)
- "Businesses will be impacted. Our chamber is not taking a stand, but based on the education we've received and the forum we held last week, the passage of those measures will not have a positive effect on business. Quite honestly, all of us will be impacted. As with any tax increase, it is the consumer who will end up paying. The schools will be saved, for now, and that is good. But I still think the measure will have a negative impact in the long run." - Jerry Wheeler, CEO of the Lake Oswego Chamber of Commerce (Lake Oswego Review 1/14/2010)
- But Measures 66 and 67 are the wrong approach - the wrong taxes - because they include permanent increases and because they unfairly tax unprofitable businesses. (StatesmanJournal.com 1/10/2010)
- Yet the Legislature responded to the recession by raising taxes permanently on the companies that keep that shrinking pool of people employed. As policies go, that isn't just bad. It's ruinous... Measure 66 will actually exacerbate one of the state's worst problems: its lopsided tax structure. (The Bend Bulletin 1/6/2010)
- The irony is that tax and fee increases threaten serious harm to the state economies at the worst possible time. Now is the time to reduce taxes, not increase them, as a way to stimulate the engine that drives the economy... Oregon lawmakers also formulated a way to tax the income of cooperatives - and then tax any dividends that members receive. This double taxation hurts both the cooperatives and their members. (Wallowa County Chieftain 1/14/2010)
- In our view, the reasons for rejecting these measures are obvious, and include: timing...these measures would siphon hundreds of millions of dollars away from the very people and businesses who create most of the jobs in this state...increased state budget volatility...Measures 66 and 67 are permanent income tax hikes and would do nothing to level out the boom or bust cycle of public funding that plagues this state... lack of fairness...we believe corporations should pay more, but it is bad economic and tax policy to require businesses that operate in the red to fork over tens of thousands more in taxes...deceptive campaigning: Measure 66 proponents repeatedly make the claim that their target-Oregonians who make more than \$125,000 (or \$250,000 for joint filers)-would see only a 1.8 percent increase in taxes. But those same supporters also know that statement to be untrue. These high-income individuals...would

actually see a 20 percent increase in their top level of taxation, from a 9 percent rate to a 10.8 percent rate. (The Portland Tribune 1/7/2010; The Beaverton Valley Times 2/12/2010; Estacada News 2/12/2010; The Gresham Outlook 1/10/2010; The Sandy Post 1/7/2010, 1/5/2010)

- Measures 66 and 67 will hurt businesses' ability to restore jobs Oregon has lost in this recession, and they will hurt Oregon's venture-funded startups....Measure 66 makes Oregon capital gains taxes the highest in the nation and will discourage investment in Oregon startups...Measure 67 also hurts startups...during these growth years, Measure 67's new gross sales tax will increase their taxes by up to \$100,000 a year, even though these companies generate no profits. - Bob Wiggins, managing partner of Mt. Hood Equity Partners (OreonLive.com 1/10/2010)
- Measures 66 and 67 take away from our economic viability, adding one more handicap to our struggle for success. - Mark Dickman, Silverton resident (Statesman Journal 1/17/2010)
- Why to we recommend a no vote on measures 66 and 67? Oregon is in a financial crisis. Like most states, Oregon's revenues are down and its costs are up. While Oregon families and businesses have cut back to deal with these hard times, our state government passed \$1.6 billion in new taxes and fees, expanded programs, added 1,540 additional state employees, increased spending by \$4.7 billion, and increased long-term debt by \$4 billion. Oregon's problem is not the need for more revenue, but the need for more discipline in spending. Passing measures 66 and 67 will cost jobs and hurt Oregon's economy. The consequence of the state's insatiable appetite for more revenue will be a slower economic recovery and the loss of thousands of jobs for Oregon workers. The tax increases contained in measures 66 and 67 send the wrong message to high-earning Oregonians and their businesses. It tells them that if they live in Oregon, they will save money and moving out of state, and if they are considering business investment, they would be wise to take their money and jobs elsewhere. - Rep. Dennis Richardson (Mail Tribune 1/17/2010)
- However, I don't think this is the time to raise our taxes. Small business is what supports our economy. Vote no(te) on 66 and 67. - LeeAnn Bikers, Myrtle Creek resident (NR Today 1/5/2010)
- I find it extremely difficult to support Measures 66 and 67 given the economic situation we find ourselves in. The majority of Salem's legislators chose to ignore the back-to-basics budget proposed by some business/legislative people that include Sen. Frank Morse. - State Rep. Andy Olson (Democrat Herald 1/7/2010)
- Just one thing about Measures 66 and 67 compels us to vote no. Our legislators' justification is the budget shortfall created by our current economic problems. That would be a good justification for temporary taxes. The Problem is, these are permanent. They'll argue that they built in a decrease after three years. The truth is, that decrease is very small. Most of the increase will remain-permanently. - Dennis Olds, Roseburg resident (NR Today 1/7/2010)
- Oregon-owned C-corporations game the system and reconfigure to S-corporations. I'm not against paying fair taxes but I am against implementing piecemeal measures that are counterproductive to comprehensive revenue restructuring. Economic

common sense says we need to encourage enterprise, generate private sector jobs, and stop spending money we don't have. - Jan Napack, Corvallis resident (Gazette Times 1/13/2010)

- Measure 66 bullies the wealthy, and 67 cripples business. Both will cover more and more taxpayers and businesses, digging into the pockets of you, me and hard-working entrepreneurs. With less we have to spend and rising business costs, who will hire? The economy will tank more. - John Beau, Lake Oswego resident (Lake Oswego Review 1/14/2010)
- They say they're just going to tax the rich and business corporations. People who make more money spend more money into the economy, which helps businesses, which in turn keeps people employed. Tax people more and they will spend less. Tax businesses more and they will either lay off employees or be forced out of business. It is estimated that if these taxes are passed, it will cause the loss of an additional 70,000 jobs in Oregon. - Jay Maxner, Powers resident (NR Today 1/19/2010)
- It didn't have to come to this. The Democrats who control the Legislature could have approved a modest and mostly temporary package of business tax increases with the full support of the Oregon Business Association, which represents many of the state's largest and most public-minded corporations....Instead, the Democrats buried kicker reform and chose to fill a large hole in the budget by tacking more onto Oregon's already high personal income taxes-exacerbating the top-heaving volatility of the state's tax system. (Think Oregon 1/3/2010)
- Measure 66 and Measure 67 will depress jobs cumulatively and significantly by reducing annual job growth: For each percentage-point increase in the personal marginal tax, Oregon's employment growth decreases by one-tenth to two-tenths of a percentage point per annum; for each percentage point increase in the corporate marginal income tax rate, Oregon's employment growth, decreases by one-tenth to one-half a percentage point per annum. (NW Republican 1/4/2010)
- Between 47,000 and 55,000 jobs will be lost by 2018 from the increase in top marginal tax rates alone in the two measures. The study did not attempt to measure the job loss impacts caused from the phase-out of the federal tax deduction for higher incomes in Measure 66 or from the increased corporate minimum taxes in Measure 67. Net out-migration of tax filers will be approximately 80,00 greater than otherwise over a ten year period...The average biennial loss in Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) from Measures 66 and 67 is approximately \$1.1 billion dollars- 50 percent higher than the \$733 million first-biennial transfer of income from the private sector sought by the measures...such losses reduce the likelihood of the measures generating their full, anticipated revenue. - Steve Buckstein, founder and senior policy analyst at Cascade Policy Institute (Oregon Catalyst 1/4/2010); Victoria Taft (Blog Spot 1/4/2010)
- What I don't like about 66's personal income tax increases, both in the statutory rate and through the reduction in the federal tax exclusion, is that they are permanent. Most economists accept that some version of the permanent income hypothesis. - Fred Thompson (The Oregon Economics Blog 1/8/2010)
- Measures 66 and 67 should be labeled Oregon's Assisted Suicide Law II. They will

allow us to watch a state slowly killing itself. They are anti-business, anti-success, anti-inspirational, anti-humanitarian, and most ironically, in the long run, they will deprive the state of tax revenue, not increase it. The current state tax codes are all of those things as well. Measures 66 and 67 just take it up and over the top. - Phil Knight (Oregon Catalyst 1/17/2010, Victoria Taft Blog Spot 1/17/2010)

- This is a tax against REVENUE versus the current INCOME tax. (Blog Spot 1/18/2010)
- This is just one example in our business and countless others that adding more taxes will do nothing more than put Oregon further into a recession and lessen the chance to employ more people in the future. There is no doubt in my mind that we all have big problems to solve...But Measures 66 and 67 are not the answer. - Terri Berkley Gonzalez, GM of Hubbard Chevrolet (OregonLive.com 1/3/2010)
- "There is not a 'No-Pain Zone' that gives anyone a free pass through this crisis," Hunt said. - Dave Hunt, House Speaker (Valley & States 5/11/2009)
- "People are facing record unemployment and difficulty in keeping their jobs. It's a very poor time to go to Oregonians and say, 'Pony up more taxes,'" - Bruce Hanna, House Republican Leader (Valley & States 5/11/2009, KGW.com 5/11/2009)
- "The Republican Party will take a real, hard look at it, but I think the bottom line is it sounds like a mistake to me," he said after the committee vote. "I think it's inappropriate. It's the wrong time to raise any taxes." - Bob Tiernan, Chairman Oregon GOP (KGW.com 5/23/2009)
- "These proposals ignore the stark realities of our current recession...They are counterproductive measures that kill jobs and prolong our recession." - J.L. Wilson, Associated Oregon Industries (Portland Business Journal 6/2/2009)
- "This will hurt Oregon jobs. This will hurt Oregon competitiveness. In a best case scenario, this will delay our recovery." - Rep. Scott Bruun (Oregon Public Broadcasting 6/5/2009)
- "We do not believe that increased taxes are needed to balance the state's budget. We strongly oppose each of these tax hikes. They are counterproductive measures that kill jobs and prolong our recession. In fact, the Legislative Revenue Office estimates that these tax hikes will kill 5,865 critical Oregon jobs." - Associated Oregon Industries (Daily Journal of Commerce 6/5/2009)
- "I think the worst thing we can do is raise taxes on business....Business has been asked to carry its fair share in this recession." - Rep. Greg Smith (East Oregonian 6/9/2009)
- "Small businesses is the backbone of Oregon's economy. Less than a third of income earned by these Oregonians is generated by wages; the rest of their income is business-related. By increasing taxes on small business owners, here will be fewer resources for job creation and reinvestment in Oregon equipment and services. These tax increases were not necessary, yet Democrats are pushing ahead despite the consequences to Oregon jobs and our economy." -Rep. Bruce Hanna (KTVZ.com 6/11/2009)
- "Apparently, Oregon closed for business last week. The folks who wanted this thing

passed did a masterful job of giving Oregonians the impression that corporations don't pay taxes and that is flat wrong. I have already spoken to member companies and this is going to cost particular businesses here anywhere from \$15,000 to \$100,000, in addition to what they are paying now....Anytime you create more regulatory burden and more of a tax burden, you remove economic development arrows out of your quiver." - Brad Hicks, CEO, Chamber of Medford/Jackson county (Mail Tribune 6/16/2009)

- "In the middle of a recession, when many businesses are already struggling, we believe an increase of that magnitude does nothing but stifle recovery....That's going to be a drain on what limited resources they have left. A tax increase of that magnitude is bound to have some sort of impact." - John Marshall, Associated Oregon Industries (Democrat Herald 6/20/2009)
- "We think it's inappropriate and irresponsible for the Oregon Legislature to impose these kinds of excessive new taxes on businesses at a time when unemployment in Linn County is over 15 percent and in Benton is at 9 or above and businesses are struggling to stay in business. It goes beyond comprehension....They should be doing everything they can to incentivize business to keep people employed, and that's not what they're doing. It is just unrealistic to think this is what is going to bring us back." - Janet Steele, Albany Area Chamber of Commerce (Democrat Herald 6/20/2009)
- "I think Oregonians understand that taxation kills jobs and hurts the economy as we try to come out of this recession and or depression that we're in." - Mark Nelson, lobbyist (Oregon Public Broadcasting 6/29/2009)
- "From the bigger perspective, this session was a disaster for the economy. The gross receipts tax will not only keep the economy upside-down longer, but will chase what remaining businesses we have in Oregon out of state. I think this session was also an attack on rural Oregon like I've never seen before." - Sen. Jason Atkinson (IVN 7/8/2009)
- "Our message will be that you don't raise taxes in a bad economy, when people already are nervous about their jobs." - Jon Chandler, lobbyist for Oregon homebuilders (KGW.com 7/17/2009, KATU.com 7/20/2009)
- "When we use the same strategy that Oregon families and small businesses are using to budget in these tough times, we don't have to talk about raising taxes that will destroy Oregon jobs and hamstringing our ability to get out of this recession." - Sen. Chris Telfer (Cascade Business News 7/15/2009)
- "This is not the time to make these kinds of changes and make them permanent." - Mike Morgan, Oregon Business Association (5/22/2009)
- "This doesn't help in just a rough time...this is permanent....It's not about this tough economy....Higher taxes won't solve our state's long term problem. The legislature will continue to struggle balancing our budget." - Bruce Hanna ("Live blogging the Oregon House tax debate" 6/9/2009)
- "We have to look at it in terms of which is most damaging to taxpayers and to economic development in Oregon. Frankly, the income tax is brutal." - Russ Walker,

FreedomWorks (StatesmanJournal.com 5/31/2009)

- “These are the people you want to come to Oregon, do well and create jobs. It’s about the economy- and that message is falling on deaf ears. All this massive tax increase will do is slow down Oregon’s economic recovery.” - John Marshall, AOI (Statesman Journal.com 6/7/2009)
- “Raising taxes during a recession is terrible public policy and will not lead to long-term economic growth.” - Russ Walker (Statesman Journal.com 6/12/2009)
- Philip J. Romero, former dean of the University of Oregon business school, now dean of the College of Business and Economics at California State University in Los Angeles, says tax increases discourage businesses from investing in Oregon if they can keep a larger share of their profits by going elsewhere.
- Arthur Laffer and Stephen Moore in the WSJ: “Here’s the problem for states that want to pry more money out of the wallets of rich people. It never works because people, investment capital and businesses are mobile: They can leave tax-unfriendly states and move to tax-friendly states.”
- “We need to stay away from taxes on the gross income of businesses, which is a great way to stifle incentives for business to invest in growth and employment” -Ken Trautman, CEO at Medford’s People’s Bank of Commerce
- “Ultimately, I wonder how much the state will bring in if these measures pass because it makes Oregon a less attractive place to do business, and corporations will leave or won’t move here” -Scott Engle, owner of Medford-based Freight Logistics.
- “That’s a hardship because the tax has to come from expenses or we would have to invest more,” he said. He said that labor is often the biggest expense and is usually the first to be cut. Wiggins also argues that the tax increase makes Oregon a less attractive place for investment, which will hurt it in the long run. - Bob Wiggins, General Partner with Mt. Hood Equity Partners (Portland Observer 1/7/2010)
- On the corporate tax, my company is not affected by the corporate minimum, and can certainly live with overall increases in the corporate rate. It is the impact on other companies I am concerned about. The change in the corporate minimum, with its focus on sales, not profits, hurts just the type of businesses that the state claims to covet, start-ups with high revenues but little or no profits at their early development stage. - Columbia Sportswear CEO Tim Boyle (Willamette Weekly 1/6/2010)
- In an Oct. 6 Oregonian article Wiggins wrote, “The legislature’s package would make Oregon’s corporate income tax rate among the highest in the country-and make it far less likely that large multinational companies would want to locate or stay here.” - Bob Wiggins, managing partner of Mt. Hood Equity Partners (Jewish Review 1/15/2010)
- “When you tax a certain group of people who have the ability to move and shake, we’re talking about the people who make the most money in Oregon, it’s going to have an affect on the businesses that they have and whether or not they invest in Oregon businesses,” Richardson said. - State Rep. Dennis Richardson (KDRV.com 1/12/2010)

- "I've been working on this since 2003 and these measures don't address the systematic problem," Morse said. "We have disinvested in education and tried to do more than we could. The issues are adequacy and stability." ... "If the Measures passed, the corporate tax would be so high that new companies wouldn't move here and the mobile ones would leave," Morse said. "The measures substantially increase the volatility." - State Senator Frank Morse (The Daily Barometer 1/12/2010)
- Measures 66 and 67 will hurt businesses' ability to restore jobs Oregon has lost in this recession, and they will hurt Oregon's venture-funded startups....Measure 66 makes Oregon capital gains taxes the highest in the nation and will discourage investment in Oregon startups...Measure 67 also hurts startups...during these growth years, Measure 67's new gross sales tax will increase their taxes by up to \$100,000 a year, even though these companies generate no profits. - Bob Wiggins, managing partner of Mt. Hood Equity Partners (OreonLive.com 1/10/2010)
- Passing ballot Measure 66 will create the second-highest personal income tax rate in the nation and make it permanent. Taxing the "rich" to redistribute wealth is patently an avenue to socialism, as it discourages the motivation that got these people (or future entrepreneurs) to where they are in the first place...Taxing the "big corporations" is simply another signal to private enterprise that Oregon is not open for business. Oregon cannot pay its cost of government, because of the migration of companies, big and small, out of our state. Take a look at the recent The World article on property taxes and see who is paying the most to help keep our county and schools running...making the taxes generated from the passage of 66 and 67 retroactive to Jan. 1 2009, is almost unworthy of comment. This alone should suggest to all voters that our Legislature continues to avoid the real issues of reducing the cost of government and entitlements. - Bill Lansing, North Bend resident (The World 1/26/2010)
- Why to we recommend a no vote on measures 66 and 67? Oregon is in a financial crisis. Like most states, Oregon's revenues are down and its costs are up. While Oregon families and businesses have cut back to deal with these hard times, our state government passed \$1.6 billion in new taxes and fees, expanded programs, added 1,540 additional state employees, increased spending by \$4.7 billion, and increased long-term debt by \$4 billion. Oregon's problem is not the need for more revenue, but the need for more discipline in spending. Passing measures 66 and 67 will cost jobs and hurt Oregon's economy. The consequence of the state's insatiable appetite for more revenue will be a slower economic recovery and the loss of thousands of jobs for Oregon workers. The tax increases contained in measures 66 and 67 send the wrong message to high-earning Oregonians and their businesses. It tells them that if they live in Oregon, they will save money and moving out of state, and if they are considering business investment, they would be wise to take their money and jobs elsewhere. - Rep. Dennis Richardson (Mail Tribune 1/17/2010)
- Oregon-owned C-corporations game the system and reconfigure to S-corporations. I'm not against paying fair taxes but I am against implementing piecemeal measures that are counterproductive to comprehensive revenue restructuring. Economic common sense says we need to encourage enterprise, generate private sector jobs, and stop spending money we don't have. - Jan Napack, Corvallis resident (Gazette

Times 1/13/2010)

- “This is a critical time for Oregon to create jobs through investments in our transportation infrastructure but we can do it in a way that gives people better transportation options and will lower costs for Oregonians in their pocketbooks. This isn’t a bill that is going to do that.” - Eric Stachon, 1000 Friends of Oregon (6/3/2009)
- “You increase the taxes on these people and, simply put, less money gets reinvested in business, in equipment, in infrastructure in this state. There will be less money for private sector job creation in this state.” Rep. Bruce Hanna (The Register-Guard 6/9/2009)
- “During these tough recessionary times, we need to help businesses survive. Higher taxes on companies mean less money to keep and hire workers or make new investments. I can tell you from running my own small business, any time taxes go up there is a spin-off effect on the surrounding community.” - Rep. Greg Smith (East Oregonian 6/10/2009)
- “The last thing Oregon needs is to give small businesses one more reason not to grow here.” - (Portland Business Journal 6/19/2009)
- “Small business is the backbone of Oregon’s economy. By increasing taxes on small business owners, there will be less resources for job creation and reinvestment in Oregon equipment and services.” - House Republican Leader Bruce Hanna (Wired Oregon 6/9/2009)
- “These are the people you want to come to Oregon, do well and create jobs. It’s about the economy- and that message is falling on deaf ears. All this massive tax increase will do is slow down Oregon’s economic recovery.” - John Marshall, AOI (Statesman Journal.com 6/7/2009)
- “People in America choose where to live and where to invest. There is always a small number who are considering moving. There are also some people considering larger investments or smaller investments. Higher tax rates induce some of these people to live outside of Oregon or to invest less in Oregon.” - William Conerly, Governor’s Council of Economic Advisers (Statesman Journal.com 7/1/2009)
- “Doing business in Oregon is more costly and complicated now than it was back at the start of the year. We’re concerned about having Oregon in a competitive place- and what we’re doing will make us less competitive.” - Jay Clemens, Associated Oregon Industries (Statesman Journal 7/1/2009)
- [Sen. Frank] Morse said taxing businesses and upper-income residents would do long-term damage to Oregon’s economy while providing only a short-term fix. What’s really needed, he said, is further reform of the “kicker” law to create a meaningful rainy day fund to shore up state revenue during hard times.
- Together two measures would drive 8,000 taxpayers from the state.
- Roger Lee, executive director of Economic Development for Central Oregon, said he is concerned about both tax increases, but especially the personal income tax hike. Having such a high rate “really forces out your best and brightest people” who might relocate to other states, he said. -- Bend Bulletin, 1/3/2010

- “The detrimental side of that is it starts a trickle-down effect. People can choose to live anywhere they want, and it’s the people who spend money that provide the fuel that keeps the economy running. If they choose to live elsewhere, we lose that stream of income.” -Dan Kosmatka, Medford CPA
- “We’re going to lose more tax payers. I know two people right now that have already bought houses or condominiums in Vancouver. One guy is waiting to see if 66 or 67 pass to see if he’ll move here (to a house on the lake) or Vancouver.” - Rich Akerman, former lake Oswego School board member (Lake Oswego Review 1/14/2010)
- Reputable economists forecast 66 and 67 will cost the state thousands-maybe tens of thousands-of jobs, and that thousands of our most successful residents will leave the state....There are words to describe what we are doing with 66 and 67: it is called a death spiral. - Phil Knight (OregonLive.com 1/17/2010)
- v Measure 66 “tax increase on high-earners would make Oregon’s personal income tax rate the highest in the country.” -Opponents of Measure 66
- Opponents say the tax increases will curtail business owners’ ability to create jobs. “Oregon has lost more than 131,000 private sector jobs since the recession started, but legislative leaders still argue that what we need is the biggest tax increase in state history,” said leaders of Oregonians Against Job-Killing Taxes (Catholic Sentinel 1/5/2010)
- “Measure 66, which is the personal tax increase will take \$472,000 out of our economy and will give Oregon the highest personal income tax rate in the country,” said Hanna - Oregon’s Minority Leader Bruce Hanna (Keizi.com 1/5/2010)
- “With the increase on corporations and increase on high earners, we would have the highest income taxes in the United States and the second highest capital gains tax,” Krieger said. “I understand Nike is talking about moving out of the state if this passes. They pay \$40 million a year in taxes and have thousands of employees. In the long term, we would wind up shooting ourselves in the foot.” - State Rep. Wayne Krieger (Currypilot.com 1/6/2010)
- Krieger said that because the tax is based on gross receipts that will be many corporations who will pay higher taxes who are actually losing money... “They will have to borrow money to pay their taxes,” said Krieger - State Rep. Wayne Krieger (Curry County Reporter 1/7/2010)
- If these new taxes are approved, why would any new corporation want to move to Oregon? We already have property taxes, then add a tax on gross receipts? Likewise what better way to encourage companies to go to foreign land to reduce their cost of production. In time it will also add to the cost of living for all citizens of Oregon. - Donald Wirth (Democrat Herald 1/11/2010)
- First of all, it will financially affect everyone, and if you don’t believe that, then you aren’t paying much attention to what is going on. - Cherrie Wellons, Melodie Thomas, Albany residents (Democrat Herald 1/19/2010)
- “Nobody likes to make cuts, and nobody likes to raise taxes. That’s the reality.” - Ginny Burdick, State Senator (The Register-Guard 5/9/2009)

- "I have not been supportive of raising the corporate income tax rate or the personal income tax rate all session. That's a fact." - Rep. Mike Schaufler (The Register-Guard 6/4/2009)
- "We have to look at it in terms of which is most damaging to taxpayers and to economic development in Oregon. Frankly, the income tax is brutal." - Russ Walker, FreedomWorks (StatesmanJournal.com 5/31/2009)
- When will all this madness stop? When will those in charge in the state of Oregon realize they must stay within their budgets? If you raise the taxes on businesses, they're going to move out, or pass the cost along to the customer with higher prices. If you raise taxes on those who worked hard for a better life, they will just leave the state. Either way, the people of Oregon lose. - Chuck Sumstine, Glide resident (NR Today 1/19/2010)
- "The bridge to Vancouver will be loaded with people and companies moving to Washington. They're piling this all onto small businesses. We're in a recession. Our video lottery receipts are down, we've been hit by the no-smoking ordinance, the minimum wage increase has cost us \$1,000 per employee for this year, plus there's surcharge for beer and liquor. Now there's the corporation tax. You lump this together and there's going to be devastating consequences for businesses in Oregon. I call it death by a thousand cuts." - John Larkin, Roxy Ann Lanes (Mail Tribune 6/16/2009)
- "For the first time since I've been a legislator, I've talked to people, both Democrats and Republicans, have said they are going to move...Oregon is no longer Oregon." - Rep. Wayne Krieger (The World 7/6/2009)
- "Oregonians should be concerned. Individuals with higher incomes and substantive resources...will quietly move their incomes and businesses to more favorable tax jurisdictions." - Robert Millen, Chairman of Jensen Investment Management (Columbian 7/28/2009)
- "The \$733 million in new taxes will come from all Oregonians as they have to pay more for groceries, gas and other services -- impacting everyone."
- Economists predict that job losses will result, but it's just as likely that companies will pass higher taxes on to consumers or cut pay or benefits for workers."
- "Businesses are going to pass these increases along to their customers, believe me," said Freeman, owner of the Garden Valley Shell station. - State Rep. Tim Freeman (The News-Review 1/6/2010)
- Skovborg says in this economy, taxing businesses more just doesn't make sense. "What that means is, the only other options for these businesses is to raise the cost of their product or service to you as a consumer or customer, which this community cannot bear the weight of that. Or in certain situations, they're going to have to close. If they're small enough, they would have to close." - Betsy Skovborg at Bend Pepsi Cola (KTVZ.com 1/7/2010)
- Measures 66 and 67 will create more economic hardship for Oregonians. Prices will go up, compensation will be cut, and jobs will be lost. Economists estimate it will mean a loss of 70,000 jobs beyond the 131,500 jobs Oregon has already lost in this

recession. - Carolyn Oakley, Albany resident (Democrat Herald 1/15/2010)

- "In effect what we're doing is paying a tax on a tax." Paul Romain, Executive Director of the Oregon Petroleum Association (KBND.com 1/7/2010)
- "Measures 66 and 67 are a solution that won't work to a problem we don't have," said business owner and Eugene City Councilor Mike Clark. Clark believes the increase in taxes will cost jobs. "If you're going to increase taxes on businesses, one of two things is going to happen," Clark said. "They're going to increase the amount of money they charge the customers, or they're going to have to lay people off and lose more jobs. We've already lost a lot of jobs." (KVAL.com 1/8/2010)
- "I realize it's only going to affect us a small amount, but it's the principle," Powell said. "Businesses that are more affected are going to pass on the tax with layoffs or passing on the cost to customers. The government is going to have to learn how to deal with their money better." - Travis Powell, Medford-based small business owner (Mail Tribune 1/10/2010)
- "Businesses will be impacted. Our chamber is not taking a stand, but based on the education we've received and the forum we held last week, the passage of those measures will not have a positive effect on business. Quite honestly, all of us will be impacted. As with any tax increase, it is the consumer who will end up paying. The schools will be saved, for now, and that is good. But I still think the measure will have a negative impact in the long run." - Jerry Wheeler, CEO of the Lake Oswego Chamber of Commerce (Lake Oswego Review 1/14/2010)
- "It could impact consumers in that prices will go up and that will impact small business because the amount that consumers will purchase will go down," she says. However, she notes she believes the public sector needs shoring up. - Kartina Marie Tuke, Gresham resident (The Gresham Outlook 1/19/2010)
- How much of the savings you are not going to receive if we pass these measures: There will be no savings, but there will be an increase because of the passage of these measures, because everything that you buy will go up in cost-businesses just pass along the cost of business to you, the customer. - James Burns, Weston resident (The East Oregonian 1/3/2010)
- Who will pick up the tab for M66 and 67? Business? Yes, of course, but what do businesses do when they incur an increase in expenses? They must compensate by increasing their prices to their customers. Ultimately it will trickle down to you and I. - Hugh Crowe, Corvallis resident (Gazette Times 1/12/2010)
- These proposed tax hikes are the result of politicians' inability to grasp basic economics, control spending and budget like the rest of us...We will all pay the price if these tax hikes are passed-in more lost jobs, fewer viable employers and higher prices. (Mail Tribune 1/17/2010)
- When will all this madness stop? When will those in charge in the state of Oregon realize they must stay within their budgets? If you raise the taxes on businesses, they're going to move out, or pass the cost along to the customer with higher prices. If you raise taxes on those who worked hard for a better life, they will just leave the state. Either way, the people of Oregon lose. - Chuck Sumstine, Glide resident (NR

Today 1/19/2010)

- One of the worst aspects of 67 is that, like 66, it's retroactive....Nothing turns business people off more than this sort of shenanigans....Unlike 66, this is not a tax on somebody else. Oregon consumers and workers are going to wind up paying whatever 67 raises. And it isn't going to be just the customers and employees of the banks and credit card companies-it will be the customers and employees of pretty much every business in the state. (Bojack.org 1/11/2010)
- "We can't tax our way out of a recession....All these taxes trickle down to the individual. Think about the multiplier effect. Services used by every Oregonians will now have a hidden sales tax. The banks, grocery stores, insurance companies, gas stations-services used by everyday Oregonians-will not have to include the cost of covering these taxes....If those businesses are forced to pay more taxes, then there is less disposable income or businesses to use to hire workers and they may have to lay off workers." - Rep. Kim Thatcher (Salem-News.com 6/10/2009)
- "I think it hurts citizens the most, especially the poorest citizens....Anybody who can pass those costs along will. We'll pay more for groceries, more for gas, and those are things that hurt poor people most." - Mysty Rusk, Corvallis-Benton Chamber Coalition (Democrat Herald 6/20/2009)
- "You don't see as much new construction for companies that pay corporate taxes in Oregon. It all comes down to the cost of doing business...The income tax is still based on people making money. If there's no jobs, there's no income-and everybody can't work for the state....There's a lot of people out of the Portland area that think about going across the river all the time. Oregon drives companies like that away. Think about it: If Nike left, what's left?" - Jason Pond, CEO Greenberry Construction and Greenberry Industrial (Democrat Herald 6/20/2009)
- "It was a painful session to agriculture. And that pain will be felt in our members' pocketbooks, especially since it is such a terrible time for our members." - Katie Fast, Oregon Farm Bureau (Capital Press 7/2/2009)
- "It was not a good session for working Oregonians. It was not a good session for business. But it was a great session for public employee unions....All those costs will be passed on to the people who pay for it. Ultimately, it's not going to end up reducing the cost of health care, and will be adding \$300 million to the cost." - Rep. Ron Maurer (IVN 7/8/2009)