

DRAFT

**A Resolution Opposing the
Passage of Measure 97**

Resolution No.

WHEREAS, sponsors of Measure 97, a proposed 2.5 percent gross receipts tax on corporations with total Oregon sales in excess of \$25 million a year, have submitted sufficient signatures to qualify the measure for the 2016 General Election ballot in Oregon; and

WHEREAS, the nonpartisan Legislative Revenue Office (LRO) has closely analyzed Measure 97 and estimated that it will generate more than \$6 billion in new state tax revenues in each of the next three state budget cycles; and

WHEREAS, LRO's analysis concluded that two-thirds of the increased corporate taxes will ultimately be paid by Oregon consumers in higher prices for everyday items such as; food, fuel, prescription drugs, healthcare, utilities, telephone and insurance.

WHEREAS, there is no plan for how the \$6 billion revenue would be spent, but the economic effects are clear – the projected loss of the more 38,000 private sector jobs and higher consumer prices averaging more than \$600 a year regressively burdening all Oregonians, but especially those least able to afford those higher costs.

WHEREAS, Consumption taxes tend to have a more muted effect on economic activity compared to taxes on income and property which more directly affect the net returns to capital and labor. If Measure 97 becomes law, it will dampen income, employment and population growth of the next 5 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners do hereby Resolve as follows:

We believe that new state revenue measures are best developed, discussed, debated and enacted by the Oregon Legislative Assembly and not ballot measure drafted by special interest groups; and

We believe that the passing of Measure 97 will create disadvantages and the potential impact of higher costs on particular industries (ie. Manufacturing) and will negatively impact their competitiveness with respect to out-of-state companies; and

We support improvements in state revenue to fund education, transportation and other priorities, but believe the economic consequences of Measure 97's passage would be too damaging to our county, cities and to all of their residents; and

We oppose the passage of Measure 97. This resolution is effective immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this _____ day of September, 2016.

John Ludlow, Chair

Recording Secretary