



Support for House Bills 2649 & 3405, the 2009 budget-balancing revenue package

WHEREAS, the 2009 Legislature, when faced with damaging cuts to state and local services as a result of the continuing national fiscal crisis, chose to enact modest but significant increases to the corporate minimum tax, the corporate income tax and income taxes on high income households and wage earners; and

WHEREAS, the legislature used the \$733 million raised through this 'tax fairness' package in conjunction with significant cuts to services to take a balance approach to finalizing the 2009-11 biennial budget; and

WHEREAS, opponents of the revenue measures are now actively circulating petitions to refer the two measures to a January 26 statewide special election in an effort to overturn the package and by extension destabilize the state budget; and

WHEREAS, should the legislative revenue package be overturned, the remaining option for the legislature would be to enact across-the-board service cuts in order to preserve a balanced budget, and thus reduce the 2009-11 State School Fund by approximately \$285.5 million; and

WHEREAS, should the legislative revenue package be referred, a YES vote will mean sustaining the tax fairness package.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Oregon School Boards Association fully supports upholding the 2009 budget balancing revenue package, or House Bills 2649 and 3405;and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the OSBA Board of Directors strongly encourages all local school boards to analyze the impact of such cuts to their district and are urged to adopt similar resolutions supporting the revenue package; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the OSBA strongly urges parents, staff and community members to actively support the measures.

Submitted by: OSBA Board of Directors