

Oregon Religious Leaders for Tax Fairness

A project of *Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon*
and *Tax Fairness Oregon* in conjunction with the *YES for Oregon* Campaign

Please add your name to the statement of support below to publicly endorse Yes on Measures 66 and 67 and help our efforts to get the message of justice and fairness out to all Oregon voters.

Tax fairness is the moral choice for people of faith - Vote Yes on 66 and 67

Discerning the path of justice and righteousness: As religious leaders and citizens we have considered the arguments for and against these two measures and have sought to discern the path of justice and righteousness with regard to this election. We have come to the following conclusions.

Times are tough: Too many Oregonians have lost their jobs or experienced pay cuts; many have seen their retirement savings or health benefits vanish. State revenues have also fallen sharply, and public education, law enforcement and many other services have seen their budgets cut.

We cannot allow working families and the most vulnerable to bear this burden alone, while many corporations and high-income taxpayers resist a modest increase in their taxes. Our congregations are doing all they can to provide help for those in need – but charity alone is not enough. Government must also provide a safety net for those most afflicted.

92% of our state budget is devoted to public education, health care, human services, and public safety. These programs make possible future economic growth and sustain struggling families in hard times. Further budget cuts would be both unconscionable and self-defeating.

It is fair and just that those who continue to prosper greatly should give back a little more of their income to support the public services that have made their prosperity possible. The responsibility of the wealthy to the poor and to the common good is a principle deeply rooted in the texts and teachings of our religious traditions. **We urge you to vote Yes on Measures 66 and 67.**

I will Vote Yes on Measures 66 and 67. You may use my name publicly as an endorser of these measures:

Title, First and Last Name: _____

Email: _____

Name of Congregation or Faith-based Organization: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone (optional): _____

For more info call Kevin Finney at 503-221-1054 x204 or email this info to kfinney@emoregon.org, or mail or Fax this form to Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon. Fax to: 503-223-7007, or mail to 0245 SW Bancroft St., Suite B, Portland, OR 97239, or call Josie Koehne at 503 866-3346 or email this info to j.koehne@comcast.net