

### **NO on IP 17 Campaign Readies for November Ballot**

This afternoon, a coalition representing businesses, consumers and organizations from across the state announced its formal opposition—<u>Defeat the Costly Tax on Sales</u>—to Initiative Petition 17 (IP 17), which qualified for the November 2024 ballot last week.

The proposal, which will receive a ballot measure number once the state elections division completes all of its validation processes, **would impose the largest tax increase of any kind in Oregon history**. The Legislative Revenue Office estimates that the tax on Oregon sales would collect \$6.8 billion per year by imposing a 3% tax on a corporation's sales above \$25 million annually. It is essentially a gross receipts tax that applies to sales, not profits. Businesses would have to pay even if they were making a small profit – or none at all.

Moreover, the tax would be applied at every step in the process of creating and selling a product in Oregon. By the time an Oregonian bought a product, it might have been taxed multiple times. The tax's effect would be far more pronounced – and regressive – than that of a typical sales tax.

IP 17 also provides no exceptions for staples like food, clothing, fuel or utilities. The Legislative Revenue Office estimates that it will increase prices in the state by 1.3%. For context, current CPI for our region is 2.8%. LRO also estimates that the measure would erode growth in jobs, wages, income and population over the next several years.

In short, IP 17 would substantially increase the cost of living in Oregon and the cost of doing business here. This would reduce the competitiveness of Oregon employers, who would have an even greater incentive to invest in other states – taking jobs and potential tax revenue with them.

The proposal would redistribute the billions of dollars it would collect to "eligible individuals," defined in the measure as anyone living in Oregon for just 200 days. However, nothing would prevent legislators from redirecting that money however they want with a simple majority vote.

Defeating this costly tax on Oregon sales will require the help of businesses, individuals and organizations throughout the state. Thank you to our Roseburg Area Chamber members that have already joined to coalition. To learn what you can do – and to receive regular updates on the campaign – please visit the campaign website below and join our growing coalition.

**Defeat the Costly Tax on Sales** 

## <u>Project Leadership Roseburg: Developing Future Business</u> and Community Leaders

The Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce is now accepting applications for the 2024-25 year of its acclaimed leadership program. If you or one of your employees is interested in enhancing knowledge, strengthening our community, developing relationships and expanding your horizons, then Project Leadership Roseburg is where you belong. The chamber's 35<sup>th</sup> year of Project Leadership Roseburg begins on September 12, so <u>APPLY NOW</u>. For details about this distinguished leadership program, check out the chamber's <u>July/August issue of Business Perspectives newsletter</u>. For 2024-25 curriculum, program specifics and application forms, <u>CLICK HERE!</u> Mail your application and a check for the \$50 application fee (RACC, P.O. Box 1026, Roseburg OR 97470) early enough to ensure the chamber receives it by the 5:00 pm deadline on Thursday, August 22, 2024.

If the class reaches capacity before August 22, the deadline will close early. Don't delay.

# "InUmpqua" Magazine has Member-Exclusive Promotional Opportunities

The chamber is accepting advertising reservations in its 2025 *InUmpqua* magazine--a digital and print business directory, community profile and visitor guide. The *InUmpqua* is made available to residents and businesses throughout Douglas County, distributed to visitors and potential new residents and to chambers/visitor information centers in Oregon. The online digital edition is one of the chamber's most popular downloads. This publication remains one of the best advertising values available to promote your business or organization to other businesses, residents and visitors. See our 2024 *InUmpqua* digital edition online. Be sure and check out our advertisers; their support allows the chamber to produce this magazine and we are so appreciative! The contract submission DEADLINE is September 30; ad submission deadline is October 15. CLICK HERE to download a copy of the 2025 *InUmpqua* rate sheet and advertising agreement.

#### **More Chamber News**

To learn about new members, renewing members, chamber programs, activities and more, check out our <u>July/August Business Perspectives</u> newsletter. See current and past issues of the chamber's <u>Business Perspectives</u> newsletter and past RACC-member communications <u>HERE</u> and <u>"Current News"</u> online. Check out RACC <u>"Issues & Positions."</u> Visit the <u>Chamber</u> Calendar online for chamber programs, events and deadlines.

Welcoming out-of-town guests to our area this summer? Check out our <u>Visitor Event</u> <u>Calendar</u> online for local events of interest to visitors. Your best resource for chamber information is on the <u>Roseburg Area Chamber website!</u> Reminder, the chamber's membership meeting lunches are on hiatus for the summer. The popular membership lunches return in the fall on Monday, September 16.

The chamber has several sponsorship opportunities available to its members ranging from \$350 to \$550. If interested in one of our sponsorship opportunities, please email <a href="mailto:sales@roseburgareachamber.org">sales@roseburgareachamber.org</a> for more details.

Be sure to follow us on **Instagram** and **Facebook!** 

### Debbie

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