



COMMON SENSE FOR OREGON

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A Fresh Approach to Prohibiting Taxes on Family Gifts

Common Sense For Oregon (CSFO) is starting the year off right by coming up with solutions to fix things here in Oregon. This year, CSFO is supporting four initiatives that we are working to place on the ballot in November. And while it may be difficult to pass all four initiatives this election season, we know with your support, we can make things happen. That is why we are excited to introduce you to one of the initiatives that we hope you can get excited about: **No Taxes on Family Giving**.

We are taking a new approach to our previous efforts to ending the "Oregon Death Tax." This time, our initiative will limit the negative effects of the Oregon Estate Tax on family-owned businesses, coupled with creating a "safe harbor" which protects any gifts of property within a family from any state or local tax in Oregon. CSFO is excited about this initiative because we believe all families in Oregon should be protected from any additional taxes.

When Measure 84 was narrowly defeated in 2012, CSFO, the lead organization helping to move the measure forward, was not deterred. The organization looked at the final statistics, and those stats showed we came close to passing the measure. The measure passed in 27 of 36 Oregon counties. It was narrowly defeated - a shift of 3.4% would have reversed the result. The opposition ran a negative television campaign that depicted the measure as only benefiting the wealthiest individuals, ignoring the

Help Us Get the Oregon Castle Doctrine on the November Ballot

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real issue as to family farms and businesses - and fairness.

CSFO is not letting the issue die. Instead, we continue to fight for what is right in Oregon. Family-owned farms, ranches, and businesses should not be burdened with the Oregon Estate Tax when gifting those businesses or shares of those businesses from one family member to another family member; any direct gift taxes, state or local, should be prohibited on family gifts; any inheritance taxes should be prohibited; and any other form of transfer taxes as to gifts between family members should be prohibited. Note: "family members" are broadly defined.

In the U.S., 35 states have abandoned estate taxes. Successful entrepreneurs with movable assets are now moving out of Oregon and establishing residences in other states – such as California, Idaho, Nevada or Arizona – which have no estate taxes.

We have collected enough signatures to submit the start-up petition for **No Taxes on Family Giving** to the Secretary of State's office. We are currently engaged in the ballot title process. Once we receive a ballot title, we will need more signatures (like yours) to allow Oregonians to vote on the measure in November.

So, what can you do? Please share this information with your family members and friends. Those who want to help us gather signatures, or donate a contribution, can contact us at:

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This issue is just as important today as it was when we fought for it in 2012. Please help us win this time.

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