

Senators push tax proposal into House

SALEM (AP) — Any tax relief plan emerging from the Oregon Legislature probably will call for the state to pay part of a homeowner's property taxes rather than limit taxes.

Chances are it also will attempt to put the brakes on skyrocketing assessments.

The House and Senate have passed tax packages featuring as the major provision the state's assumption of 30 percent of the tax liability on owner-occupied homes.

Using income tax revenue which has soared in recent years along with inflation, the state would pay up to \$800 of the property tax bill, starting next November. Renters would get

up to \$400 a year.

Businesses, including rental property, would not get state assistance.

Both plans would retain voter control over taxing and spending authority of local governments. The Senate wants to hold the increase of some state spending to the growth in personal income of all the state's residents.

The House will decide Tuesday whether to accept the Senate plan or send the issue to a joint conference committee.

While the property tax relief provisions are the same, there are other major differences.

As for net relief, legislative staff studies show it would be

\$305 under the House plan for a family of four with a \$40,000 home and a tax rate of \$20 per \$1,000 of value.

Under the same conditions, the Senate plan would give the family \$280.

The House plan does not limit assessment increases, while the Senate would tie assessment hikes to the increase in the cost of living as measured by the Portland area Consumer Price Index.

For the 12 months ending in March, the CPI for Portland increased about 14 percent.

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The Senate plan has no refund this year, but offers a 4 percent credit, or about \$37 on the average, on tax returns to be filed in 1980.

If there's any part of the Senate plan that's not negotiable, it would appear to be the assessment limit.

Noting that an attempt to remove the provision failed 26-4, Senate Pres. Jason Boe said, "that indicates to me that nearly all the senators feel that something must be done to hold down assessments."

House Speaker Hardy Myers said the House, which passed its tax package more than a month ago, might go for some type of assessment limit.

"Everything in the package is negotiable," said Rep. Bill Grannell, D-North Bend, chair of the House Revenue Committee that shaped the House plan.

He and other House members want more income tax relief than the Senate and don't like the Senate's change of a provision on local budget elections.

Both plans have what has

been called an A and B ballot proposal.

Before the amount to be raised from local taxes tax levy could be increased, the voters would have to approve last year's tax levy.

The Senate said that in school district elections, the A ballot, or last year's levy, could go up automatically to match the CPI and enrollment growth.

"If you allow an automatic increase, you might as well not have the B ballot increased levy," Grannell said.

Boe and Senate Revenue Committee Chairman John Powell, D-Halsey, said the Senate might agree to changes in its provisions on income taxes and the A and B ballots.

Gov. Vic Atiyeh doesn't like either plan and could veto all or part of anything the Legislature produces.

But the votes, 20-10 in the Senate and 54-6 in the House, would indicate the lawmakers have the necessary two-thirds support, or 20 votes in the Senate and 40 in the House, to over-ride any veto.

Republicans aim to slice approved Demo budget

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Democratic leaders have emerged virtually unscathed from the early rounds of the 1980 budget fight, but the Republicans are still hoping to land a blow.

The GOP is poised with two major proposals to cut spending levels approved by the Democrats when the House resumes work Monday on a target budget for fiscal 1980, which starts Oct. 1.

If either GOP substitute wins,

Democrats concede that the House spending recommendations would amount to a Republican budget. The Democratic leaders, however, say they don't expect that to happen.

The Democratic-controlled House Budget Committee proposed a 1980 budget calling for \$532.7 billion in spending and a \$24.9 billion deficit. During budget action last week, the House trimmed those figures by about \$840 million.

emu Cultural Forum



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY MAY 11

EMU East Lawn

- 11:00 Eric Park
- 12:00 The Great Disaster String Band
- 1:00 John Ryder
- 2:00 Woody Harris
- 3:00 Gail Streicker and Patti Lamont
- 4:00 Sam Jones
- 5:00 Ragtime Millionaires (21 YEARS AND OLDER)

EMU Dining Room and Courtyard — FREE ADMISSION

Of Special Interest:

- 8:00 1979 American Old Time Music Festival
- Featuring Tracy Schwartz, The Golden Eagles, Wade and Julia Mainer, and Queen Ida
- EMU Ballroom — FREE ADMISSION

SATURDAY MAY 12

EMU East Lawn

- 11:00 Butler Green
- 12:00 Jim Guthrie
- 12:30 Cynthia Orr
- 1:00 Boden and Zenetto
- 2:00 The Old Favorite
- 3:00 Northern Broadcasters
- 4:00 Percy Hilo
- 5:00 The Flying Karamazov Brothers

Of Special Interest:

- 12:30 WORKSHOP: Traditional Sea Shanties
- Presented by Bob Choderker
- EMU Forum Room — FREE ADMISSION
- 2:00 FILM: 1977 San Francisco Blues Festival
- By Filmmaker/Blues Guitarist Mike Henderson
- EMU Forum Room — FREE ADMISSION
- 8:00 An Evening of Vaudeville and Rhythm and Blues
- Featuring The Robert Cray Band and The Flying Karamazov Brothers
- EMU Ballroom — \$3.00 University of Oregon Students \$4.00 General Admission

SUNDAY MAY 13

EMU East Lawn

- 11:00 Sunnyland and Drake
- 12:00 Sandy Putz, Ron Voll, David Floyd, Marva Pawley
- 1:00 Wendall John
- 2:00 Wendy Grossman
- 3:00 Josh Schurman
- 4:00 Dennis Ramsey

Of Special Interest:

- 3:00 WORKSHOP: Playing the Dulcimer
- Presented by Sam Jones
- EMU Forum Room — FREE ADMISSION
- 8:30 Claudia Schmidt
- WOW Hall — \$2.50 in advance \$3.00 at the door

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