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25 years

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Public Information about Ballot Measure 20-129

Lane County's funding is not stable. Without a new source of revenue, the present level of public safety services would be reduced. A proposed income tax dedicated to maintaining current service levels is on the May 15 ballot.

Caps on property tax revenue limit the County's ability to keep up with the cost of operating a general purpose government. Expenses grow about 6% a year; revenues grow about 3% a year. Additionally, federal and state revenues have not increased as fast as operating costs.

15 years of revenue instability

- Keep 160 jail beds open
- Prosecute 600 felony drug possession crimes
- Offer mental health, and drug and alcohol treatment for about 200 offenders
- Keep six detectives to investigate felony crimes, homicide, rapes, crimes against children and major property crimes
- Provide residential drug treatment for boys
- Supervise 325 convicted misdemeanor domestic violence offenders
- Retain search and rescue services
- Coordinate youth working to repay victims
- Supervise and manage 1,100 offenders
- Remove drugs and weapons on federal lands, including closing meth labs

Dedication of the income tax permits the funds to be used to

The 1.1% income tax applies to all personal and business income. It also applies to non-resident income earned in Lane County.

The public safety income tax would raise \$32.5 million annually to replace non-road federal payments to Lane County. Funds would be used to sustain current public safety service levels. The income tax would be dedicated for public safety programs and services including adult and youth corrections, mental health and crime victim services, alcohol and drug treatment, crime prevention, detention, supervision, and patrol.

The ordinance also dedicates a portion of existing property tax revenue to fund veterans services and extension services at current service levels.

Basics of the income tax

Uncertainty about the timing, magnitude or duration of federal payments to counties has prompted the Lane County Board of Commissioners to place this measure on the May ballot. If Congress restores federal payments to counties, the rate of the income tax would be reduced. Services would be funded at existing levels.

Why now?



LANE COUNTY OREGON

For more information go to www.lanecounty.org and click on "Public Safety Income Tax" Call (541)682-4203 or stop by 125 E. 8th Ave., Eugene

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