
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8008

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2001 Regular Session

By Senators Benton and Carlson

Read first time 01/18/2001. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 TO THE HONORABLE JOHN A. KITZHABER, GOVERNOR OF OREGON, AND TO THE
2 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE, AND TO THE SENATE
3 AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF OREGON:

4 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
5 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
6 represent and petition as follows:

7 WHEREAS, Washington exempts Oregon residents who purchase goods in
8 Washington from sales tax to create sales tax equality between the two
9 states; and

10 WHEREAS, Washington residents who work in Oregon, or who have
11 spouses that work in Oregon, must pay Oregon income taxes; and

12 WHEREAS, The State of Washington imposes no similar income tax on
13 Oregon residents working in Washington; and

14 WHEREAS, It is estimated that approximately 60,000 Washington
15 residents commute to Oregon every day which constitutes a considerable
16 portion of Portland's work force;

17 WHEREAS, It is estimated that Washington residents provide Oregon
18 with 70 million dollars in income tax revenue; and

19 WHEREAS, Washington residents pay this Oregon income tax despite
20 receiving very few or no services in return; and

1 WHEREAS, This situation is much more serious than mere taxation
2 without representation;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully request that a joint
4 committee on taxation, consisting of an equal number of legislators
5 from both states, be established to study the issue of tax fairness for
6 residents residing in one state who are employed, conduct business, or
7 make purchases in the other state.

8 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
9 transmitted to the Honorable John A. Kitzhaber, Governor of Oregon, and
10 to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
11 Representatives, and to the Senate and House of Representatives of the
12 State of Oregon.

--- END ---