

Thursday, May 7th, 2015

To: Our thousands of supporters throughout the state (cc'd to the media, house & senate members, and Governor)

From: Tim Eyman, Jack Fagan, & Mike Fagan, Fighting for Taxpayers for 16 years, 425-493-9127, tim_eyman@comcast.net, www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com

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RE: Olympia's latest threat to your wallet: 5-fold increase in property tax increases

This is what happens in Olympia without the 2/3 protection: two days ago, a brand new bill, House Bill 2255, got introduced during the recently called special session (when no one is paying attention) and it imposes a 5-fold increase in property tax increases.

It is terrifying.

For many years, each level of government could impose a 6% per year property tax hike. So state government imposed 6% per year, counties 6% per year, cities 6% per year, ports 6% per year, fire/library/park/hospital/cemetery/mosquito districts 6% per year, etc. All those "6%'s" compounded and property taxes skyrocketed. In 1980, state and local governments collected a little over \$1 billion in property taxes. In 2001, they collected \$5.7 billion

So in 2001, we sponsored Initiative 747 and voters overwhelmingly approved a 1% per year limit. So 1% for state government, 1% for counties, 1% for cities, 1% for ports, etc. -- the only way to exceed that 1% cap has been to get voters' permission at the ballot box.

House Bill 2255 gets rid of the voters' 1% limit and allows each level of government to unilaterally jack up property taxes 5% per year without voters' permission.

Can taxpayers afford a 5-fold increase in their property tax increases? Massive increases in property taxes mean skyrocketing house payments, skyrocketing rent payments, and skyrocketing commercial lease payments (meaning higher prices for most everything you buy

The ripple effects of this massive tax increase would be devastating to struggling taxpayers.

But this is what Olympia does when there's no 2/3 protecting us.

The Legislature is going absolutely bonkers this session. Even before this bill was introduced, there were \$43 billion+ in tax hikes being pushed by the House and \$26 billion+ by the Senate (with Inslee cheerleading for "more, more, more").

It is critical we get the 2/3-For-Taxes Constitutional Amendment Initiative on the ballot. This legislative session has illustrated how truly terrifying Olympia is without the 2/3. Voters deserve the chance to put the 2/3 protection in our state Constitution.

Success is the only option with the signature drive for I-1366. Please help us make it happen.



If you support our efforts to protect taxpayers and you want to help ensure the success of I-1366, our 2/3-For-Taxes Constitutional Amendment Initiative, please send us a donation for \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1000, \$2500, \$5000 or more (there are no limits on how much can be given). You can go to our website right now - www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com and make a secure on-line contribution by PayPal or VISA or M/C. OR, you can print [this form](#), fill it out, and return it with a check or credit card information.

We've done so many amazing things over the past 16 years, but that's only been possible thanks to successful benefactors like you. We ask you to please help us help taxpayers.

Please donate TODAY.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tim Eyman, Jack Fagan, & Mike Fagan, Fighting for Taxpayers for 16 years,
425-493-9127, tim_eyman@comcast.net, www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com

P.S. There are thousands of politicians, bureaucrats, lobbyists, and special interest groups working each and every day to raise your taxes. Shouldn't there be at least one person, one team, one organization that fights to lower your taxes? Please help us so we can continue our successful efforts on behalf of taxpayers.

"Nothing ventured, nothing gained." Benjamin Franklin