

**EXHIBIT B**

**BALLOT TITLE**

**CAPTION:**

**MEASURE NO. 26-48**

THREE-YEAR INCOME TAX FOR SCHOOLS, HUMAN SERVICES, PUBLIC SAFETY

**QUESTION:**

*Should Multnomah County enact three-year 1.25% income tax for county schools, health and senior care and public safety?*

**SUMMARY:**

The state has cut funds for county schools, health and senior services and public safety. School districts have cut programs and instructional days. Senior citizens and low income families have lost necessary medications and housing assistance. Inmates have been released from jail early.

This measure enacts a three year 1.25% County income tax for services such as:

- Teachers, programs and instructional days for Multnomah County public schools, including Centennial, Corbett, David Douglas, Gresham-Barlow, Parkrose, Portland, Reynolds, Riverdale Districts;
- Prescription drug benefits for low income seniors;  
Restore housing and independent living assistance for the elderly and disabled;  
Health and mental health care for low income people;
- Reduce early release of inmates;  
Offender drug and alcohol treatment.

For single filers, \$2,500 of taxable income is exempt. For joint filers, \$5,000 of taxable income is exempt. 'Taxable income' is taxable income under Oregon law (after deductions) of Multnomah County residents.

This measure will raise an estimated \$135 million annually. Independent performance audits will be conducted. The only administrative costs are for tax collection.

## **EXHIBIT C**

### **EXPLANATORY STATEMENT:**

State funding for schools in Multnomah County have been severely cut. The County has also suffered cuts to local services. This measure allows Multnomah County to assist county public schools with their funding gaps and to restore some of the local services cut.

The Measure will provide funds for county public schools, health and senior services, and public safety. It enacts a temporary, three year 1.25% personal income tax.

About 75% of revenues from this measure will provide funds for the 2003-2004, 2004-2005, and 2005-2006 school years. Multnomah County schools may use the funds for services such as:

- Retaining teacher positions to maintain or improve student-teacher ratios;
- Maintaining instructional days to help ensure a full, 180 day school year;
- Funding programs and services that prepare students for college and the workforce;
- Communicating with citizens about achievement and accounting for the use of these tax dollars.

Independent performance audits will be conducted on funds generated by this measure.

This measure creates a School Efficiency and Quality Advisory Council to review expenditures by county school districts. It will include parents, educators, taxpayers, and business, labor, and government leaders. It will oversee the new local tax revenues for the benefit of students.

About 25% of revenues from this measure will provide funds for health care, mental health, senior services, and public safety. These funds will be used for services such as:

- Housing and living assistance to seniors and the disabled;
- Prescription drug assistance for low-income seniors;
- Emergency mental health services;
- Health, mental health and addiction treatment for offenders to help reduce recidivism;
- Prosecution of identity theft, stolen vehicles, theft, vandalism, criminal trespass and possession of controlled substances;
- Support for community courts;
- Restoration of jail beds;

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- Juvenile justice and gang services - day reporting center, juvenile diversion, skill development, probation, gang outreach, receiving center/homeless youth;
- Community supervision of adult offenders;
- Restore alcohol and drug treatment for repeat offenders.

If the State reduces base funding allocation for county schools, or funding for public safety or human services, the County Board of Commissioners will consider immediate termination of this County income tax.

If the State restores funding for county public schools, public safety, or human services during the next three years, the Board will consider immediate termination or reduction this tax.

Beginning with the 2003-2004 fiscal year, all revenues generated from this tax are subject to independent reviews by the County Auditor. Any time after July 1, 2003, the County Auditor may audit the revenues generated from this income tax or any program that receives funds from this tax.

The measure will raise an estimated \$135 million annually. A taxpayer with Oregon taxable income (after deductions) of \$30,000 would pay about \$21 a month for three years as a result of this measure. This estimated payment takes into account changes in deductions on federal and state taxes.

For more information, visit Multnomah County's website at:  
<http://www.co.multnomah.or.us>