Here's why we’re targeting property taxes this year

Dear Fellow Taxpayer:

Last month, we launched the signature drive for the Property Tax Fairness Initiative 1550. The response we’ve received has been overwhelmingly positive. Folks who received petitions are asking for more and making copies locally. And we’re raising funds at a steady clip.

It’s important for all of you to know WHY we’re targeting property taxes this year:

- Governor Jay Inslee is pushing for massive tax increases this year. New carbon taxes, new income taxes, new business taxes, new taxes on regular citizens. The state budget office confirms that his tax hikes will cost taxpayers over $51.2 billion over the next 10 years. That’s $3000 for a family of 4. Our initiative is the best way to fight back against this.
- Senate Republicans are pushing a plan to raise property taxes $24 billion at the state level (UGH!). The only thing good about it is this: it’ll only go into effect if the voters approve it — they are putting their tax plan on the ballot for the voters to decide (good for them). Our initiative is the best way to fight back against this.
- This legislative session, all the local governments, especially Seattle and King County, are doing a full-court press in Olympia, trying to convince the Legislature to get rid of our 1% cap on property tax increases. We sponsored and voters approved Initiative 747 in 2001. It has saved taxpayers $12.6 billion over the past 16 years. But local politicians are pushing REALLY hard to get rid of it. Our initiative is the best way to fight back against this.

We thought long and hard about how best to defend ourselves from this all-out assault on property owners and property tax payers. And we ultimately decided that the best defense is a good offense. We decided to fight fire with fire. Their proposals to massively raise property taxes needed to be met with an initiative to make property taxes fairer.

The Property Tax Fairness Initiative 1550 makes property taxes fairer by providing a meaningful, permanent 25% across-the-board reduction in the property tax burden (voter-approved levies, including local school levies, are not affected). There’s clearly a problem. Property taxes have skyrocketed: in 1980, property tax revenues were $1 billion. In 2016, they hit $10 billion, a 10-fold increase. Taxpayers need a break.

The Property Tax Fairness Initiative makes property taxes fairer by closing loopholes in the property tax cap we sponsored 16 years ago. Initiative 1550 caps property tax increases at 1% per year. If governments want more, the only way is by asking voters’ permission at the ballot box (and only at a high turnout general election).

And finally, the Property Tax Fairness Initiative makes property taxes fairer by eliminating the personal property tax. When you buy personal property and pay sales taxes on it, it’s not fair to have it be double-or triple-taxed with a recurring, burdensome personal property tax too. Our initiative ends that unfairness.

Polling shows public support for Initiative 1550 is sky-high: 63% yes, 26% no (with the
rest not sure). That’s amazing. Our initiative is a winner.

We have from now until early July to collect over 300,000 voter signatures!! We know we can do it if we all do our part.

We ask to please make a secure contribution by PayPal, VISA, or MasterCard at www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com. Or, fill out the form below and send us a check or credit card donation of $10, $25, $50, $100, $250, $500, $1,000, $2500, $5000 or more (there are no limits on the amount that can be given). Either way, please send us your most generous donation RIGHT NOW. And please consider a monthly contribution. We’re counting on you.

We can’t keep fighting without you. Please contribute TODAY. Thank you.

Regards, Tim Eyman, Jack Fagan, & Mike Fagan, Fighting for Taxpayers for 18 Years

P.S. Enclosed is another petition. If you want more, please call or email and ask for more. Even better, make copies locally. Just make sure that they get printed on 11”x17” paper, front & back, printed in color or B&W, either works just fine.

VOTERS WANT MORE CHOICES • PO Box 18250, Spokane, WA 99228
Ph: 425-493-9127 • Fax: 425-493-1027 • VotersWantMoreChoices.com • jakatak@comcast.net

Guys, I really appreciate what you’re doing – keep fighting for us. Please accept my contribution for $________________

Please supply the information below (it’s really important to fill this out).

Your Name _______________________________________________________

Address _________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip, Phone # ________________________________

Enclosed is my check for $_________________________ Made payable to “Voters Want More Choices”

Occupation___________________________ Employer & Employer Zip Code

VISA or M/C #_________________________ Exp. (MM/YY) ______ /_______ 3-Digit CSC#________ Amt. $________________

CRITICAL: Email Address (Please Print Clearly) _____________________________

Your financial support is critical so we can effectively fight for taxpayers. With Inslee and the Democrats pushing so hard for tax increases, our efforts are needed now more than ever. Thank you for your support.