

Oregon Measures

Measure 102: Vote YES

Allows Municipal Bond Revenue to Fund Privately Owned Affordable Housing

Measure 103: Vote NO

Bans Tax on Groceries

Measure 104: Vote NO

Defines Raising Revenue for Three-Fifths Vote Requirement

Measure 105: Vote NO

Repeals Sanctuary State Law

Measure 106:

*See discussion on back page
Bans Public Funds for Abortions*

Portland Metro Area Measures

Metro Measure 26-199:

Vote YES

Authorizes \$653 million in bonds to build affordable housing

Portland Measure 26-201:

Vote YES

Creates and funds the Portland Clean Energy Fund

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Measure 102: Vote YES

Constitutional Amendment—Allows Municipal Bond Revenue to Fund Privately Owned Affordable Housing

The Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) board of directors recommends a “YES” vote on Measure 102 to allow municipal bond revenue to fund privately owned affordable housing. As people of faith, we seek to promote human dignity and, as our Social Principles state, to create a government and social order that is “responsive to human needs and aspirations.” Measure 102 will provide local governments with another tool to address Oregon’s housing crisis in a fiscally sound manner.

Measure 103: Vote NO

Constitutional Amendment—Bans Tax on Groceries

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon recommends a “NO” vote on Measure 103 to ban taxes on “groceries.” As members of faith communities across Oregon, we see the daily burden that low-income families and individuals face across our state. The grocery industry is using that concern to appeal to voters with the false premise that politicians are seeking a tax on groceries. There have been no such proposals in the Oregon Legislature; instead there has been consideration of proposals to increase the corporate share of tax revenue in the state. Currently, Oregon ranks as one of the very lowest in total state and local business tax revenue. EMO will continue to work to ensure food and personal necessities are affordable, but exempting industry segments from any prospect of tax reform will only make it more difficult to solve the problems of individuals in need.

Full text of Voters' Guide at emoregon.org/advocacy-action

Since 1978, EMO has produced high-quality ballot measure guides with recommendations from a faith-based perspective for Oregon voters. The upcoming election is a critical one. Faith leaders serve an important role in encouraging members toward faithful living in all aspects of their lives, including voting. However, misinformation about the separation of church and state abounds.

- **Congregations May Not:** endorse or oppose particular candidates, or contribute money toward candidates.
- **Congregations May:** register voters, pass out voter’s guides, invite all candidates in a race to speak, and speak directly about social issues and legislation.

Measure 104: Vote NO

Constitutional Amendment—Defines Raising Revenue for Three-Fifths Vote Requirement

We recommend a “NO” vote on Measure 104 to define raising revenue for three-fifths vote requirement. If passed, over time Measure 104 will reduce revenue for schools, health care and services needed by the vulnerable. It will protect those who have been able or will be able to secure tax breaks, which have historically benefited wealthier Oregonians and large corporations. This threatens to expand the wealth gap, while making it harder to fund the priorities of the middle class and lowest-income earners.

Measure 105: Vote NO

Statutory Initiative—Repeals Sanctuary State Law

We urge a “NO” vote Measure 105 to repeal Oregon’s sanctuary law. How we treat the marginalized in our society speaks volumes about our commitment to the Great Commandment “to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.” We stand with all of our neighbors, including immigrants without documentation; they are our friends, coworkers and family members. Measure 105 would throw out a 30-year-old state law passed with near-unanimous Republican and Democratic support. Our “sanctuary” law is based on a profound faith tradition of dignity and fairness. It protects Oregonians from racial profiling and prevents local police personnel, funds, equipment and facilities from being used to pursue and detain people suspected only of violating federal immigration law. Preserving this law means protecting Oregon values and priorities.

Measure 106

Constitutional Amendment—Bans Public Funds for Abortions

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon encourages discussion on Measure 106 to ban public funds for abortions. Measure 106 is, in the most direct sense, about whether public funds should be spent on abortions. However, the EMO board of directors is clear in its belief that this measure is ultimately about the morality and justness of abortion itself. As an organization, EMO believes our most valuable contribution to the discussion around Measure 106 is to build a pathway for understanding and empathy between people of faith with opposing views on abortion. EMO extends an invitation to delve deeply into the sincerely-held, faith-based values that lead people of faith to support or oppose the public funding of abortion. In our *2018 Voters’ Guide to Oregon Ballot Measures* (view at emoregon.org/advocacy-action), EMO references the measure’s focus on taxpayer funding for abortion, but largely focuses on the shared values and beliefs that connect those inclined to support and to oppose this measure.

Metro 26-199: Vote YES

Authorizes \$653 Million in Bonds to Build Affordable Housing in Washington, Clackamas and Multnomah Counties

As people of faith, we seek to promote human dignity and, as our Social Principles state, to create a government and social order that is “responsive to human needs and aspirations.” Metro 26-199 will provide housing to thousands of low-income individuals, enabling them to focus on addressing their other needs and on pursuing their own goals.

City of Portland 26-201: Vote YES

Portland Clean Energy Fund

Measure 26-201 would decrease Portland’s carbon footprint while also providing material support and job opportunities to underemployed and disadvantaged communities. The EMO board recognizes Measure 26-201 as a means to stand with Portland’s communities of color, reduce climate pollution, provide economic opportunity for Portlanders, and practice the social principle of affirming the intrinsic value of all creation.

Please note the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon releases all public policy statements through the Oregon Catholic Conference.