



## Senator Alan Olsen

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Oregon State Capitol  
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### **Olsen cautions against sales tax**

**Salem** – Senator Alan Olsen (R-Canby) testified against a proposed 5% sales tax in front of the Senate Revenue Committee Monday. Olsen said more jobs, forced fiscal discipline and a strong rainy day fund are better ways to provide stability for core services.

“A sales tax is a non-starter,” said Olsen. “Until the government can prove it can live with discipline and spend responsibly, voters won’t trust the legislature with another lever of taxation. What’s more, a constitutional sales tax proposal that doesn’t provide a constitutional protection against income tax increases looks suspicious.”

Olsen believes Oregon needs more stable funding for classrooms and social net services, but presented an alternative approach to getting there.

Olsen called for increasing state revenue by aggressive job creation and said Oregon could achieve stable funding for core services through a strong state savings account.

“We must act boldly, courageously, and aggressively with an expansive vision for lasting, high-wage jobs across the state,” said Olsen “We should strive to foster enterprise and attract job-creators and build an eco-system of entrepreneurship. We should also achieve stability the same way Oregon families find stability, by spending less than we earn and carefully saving for a rainy day.”

Olsen pointed to proposals like SJR 28 as a way to provide a simple, understandable state savings account. The concept simply sets aside 3% of income tax collections and lottery revenues at the beginning of every budget cycle to be saved in a reserve fund for use in an economic downturn.

Olsen and his wife Juanita make their home in Canby. Olsen is a veteran of the United States Army, serving from 1969 to 1971. He is a general contractor and small business owner building homes and structures across Oregon. Senate District 20 includes Canby, Oregon City, Damascus, Estacada and rural parts of Clackamas County.

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