

Val Hoyle has consistently supported higher taxes and policies that result in higher costs for Americans. In Congress, she voted against legislation that would lower household costs. And, in Oregon, she voted to raise taxes by over \$300 million while voting to cut pensions for police officers, firefighters and teachers.

2018 Health Insurance Tax

In 2018, Val Hoyle Supported An Up-To-\$320 Million Tax Increase On Health Insurers And Hospitals To Fund Oregon’s Medicaid Program. “An architect of Measure 101, the state ballot measure to repeal \$320 million in taxes on health insurers and hospitals for Oregon’s Medicaid program, faced off with a supporter of the funds at a public forum in Springfield on Tuesday night. Nearly 13,000 Lane County residents already have returned their ballots ahead of the Jan. 23 statewide election. The measure is the only item on the ballot. The Oregon Legislature, with Democrats controlling both chambers, last year passed a 1.5 percent tax on premiums collected by health insurers, as well as tax increases on some hospital revenues. The funds are part of a larger extension of hospital taxes to raise \$550 million for the Oregon Health Plan, the government-funded health insurance system for low-income residents, through mid-2019. Val Hoyle, a former state representative from Eugene who supports the funding package, and state Rep. Cedric Hayden, a Fall Creek Republican and one of the chief petitioners of the effort to put a repeal of some of the taxes on the ballot through Oregon’s referendum process, gave their pitches for and against the measure to about 50 people at the Richard E. Wildish Community Theater in downtown Springfield.” (Elon Glucklich, “Springfield Forum Airs Pros And Cons Of Measure 101,” *Register Guard*, 1/10/18)

- **Under The Funding Plan, Insurance Companies Would Pay A 1.5 Percent Tax On Most Policies, Which They Are Allowed To Pass Along To Consumers.** “Oregon’s Medicaid program survived intact Tuesday, after voters approved hundreds of millions of dollars in health care taxes in a special election. Measure 101, which led 62 percent to 38 percent with returns partially tallied, was the only issue on the ballot. It will raise \$210 million to \$320 million in taxes on Oregon’s largest hospitals and many health insurance policies by 2019. Voters’ wide approval of the tax deal was a victory for Democrats, who put the deal together and brokered enough votes in the Legislature to pass it, and for the health care industry, which bankrolled the ‘yes’ campaign and will benefit from the resulting \$1 billion-plus that will be spent on Oregonians’ health care. ... “Large hospitals will pay a 0.7 percent tax. Insurance companies will pay a 1.5 percent tax on most policies, which they are allowed to pass along to consumers.” (Hillary Borrud, “Oregon Voters Overwhelmingly Pass Health Care Taxes,” *Oregonian*, 1/24/18)

Benefits Reduction

In 2013, Val Hoyle Voted For A Bill That Would Reduce Pension Benefits For Public Sector Retirees. “The House of Representatives passed a bill Wednesday that would reduce pension benefits for public sector retirees and end a state income tax remedy for some. In the 33-27 vote, Rep. Brian Clem, D-Salem, was the only member to cross the aisle. He voted against the bill while every other Democrat voted in favor. Although Senate Bill 822 received more than an hour of testimony, no one appeared pleased with it. Republicans (and Clem) flatly voted against it, and most Democrats who testified in favor of it seemed to view it as the lesser of two evils. ‘Innocent people will be casualties of a yes vote and a no vote,’ said Rep. Chris Garrett, D-Lake Oswego. But he said he chose to vote in favor of the bill because it would provide more funding for schools. Even Rep. Peter Buckley, D-Ashland, who introduced Senate Bill 822 in March along with his budget committee co-chairman Sen. Richard Devlin, D-Tualatin, seemed ambivalent about it.” (Hannah Hoffman, “PERS bill passes,” *Statesman Journal*, 4/25/13)

- On April 24, 2013, Val Hoyle voted for H.B. 822, a bill that would modify cost-of-living adjustment under Public Employees Retirement System. (S.B. 822, [Oregon House Third Reading](#), Passed 33-27, 4/24/13)