

## Poll Shows Support Among Northwestern Oregonians

Oregon's state government is funded primarily by income taxes, so the Portland metro area pays much more than its share. If a low-income county leaves the state, the state budget improves.

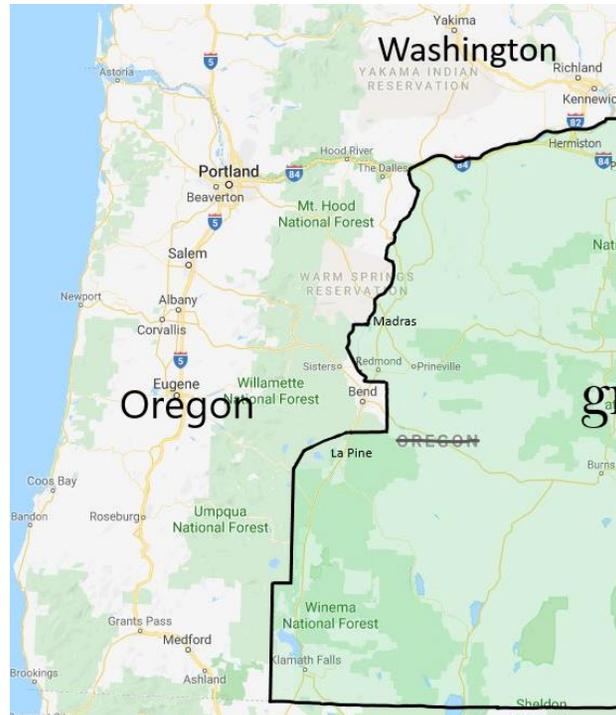
SurveyUSA did a poll of 1068 voters of northwestern Oregon and found that **only 3% think that keeping** eastern & southern Oregon in their state **is worth the cost**. For a link to the relevant SurveyUSA webpage, visit [greateridaho.org/news](http://greateridaho.org/news).



## F.A.Q.

**Is this legal?** State borders have been moved many times in US history. The Oregon / Washington border was relocated slightly in 1958. Months after West Virginia joined the Union, Berkeley County and then Jefferson County switched states.

**Why don't we just move?** 70% of eastern Oregon votes conservative, and it would be expensive and wasteful for 70% of the 380,000 of us to try to find someone to buy all our homes and farms so that we can build new homes in Idaho. We love our communities, but we need a state government that will allow us to maintain our way of life. You will still be welcome to visit.



# Reasons to Let Oregon Counties Join Idaho



*Move Oregon's Border for a...*

## GREATER IDAHO

- ✓ Richer state budget (cut losses)
- ✓ End gridlock in Oregon Legislature & end influence of eastern Oregon voters on western Oregon decisions
- ✓ Stop holding communities in Oregon against their will
- ✓ Oregonians poll strongly in favor

## How to move the Oregon / Idaho border

Step 1: Counties vote to prove to state legislators that eastern Oregon wants to join Idaho.

**11 of 15 counties there have voted in favor so far, and more will vote soon.**

Step 2: Idaho Legislature holds hearings.

**Our first hearing was April 12, 2021.**

Step 3: Oregon Legislature holds hearings.

Step 4: Oregon and Idaho Legislatures pass a “memorial” or resolution to invite each other to consider the issue.

Step 5: Oregon & Idaho leaders negotiate.

Step 6: State legislatures ratify an interstate compact that sets the terms of the border relocation, such as which assets and liabilities become Idaho’s and what payments shall be made.

Step 7: Optionally, the compact authorizes a plebiscite (vote) for eastern Oregon voters as a whole to consent to, or veto, the compact.

Step 8: Congress approves the interstate compact and amends acts of admission of both states.

Learn more at [greateridaho.org](http://greateridaho.org)

## Moving the border benefits western Oregon

**1. SAVE MONEY:** The average wage earner in northwestern Oregon spends \$590 in taxes to subsidize southern and eastern Oregon every year, according to an economic analysis funded by the Claremont Institute. Are you willing to keep paying that, just so that Oregon looks big on a map?

As long as Oregon relies on income taxes, the state is going to be subsidized by high-income areas like Portland. Oregon’s state government is not funded by property taxes. As far as the state budget is concerned, people and their incomes matter – not land area.

**2. END GRIDLOCK** in the Legislature: Without these counties, Democrats would have the super-majority necessary to pass taxation bills. Republicans in the Legislature would no longer have the numbers to deny quorum by walking out, or slow the legislature by forcing bills to be read in full. Oregon would make progress, becoming more liberal than Washington State. No Republicans would be added to the US Senate or US House by this change. The effect on the electoral college would only be half a vote out of 538, less than 0.1%.

**3.** Conservatives of western Oregon get the opportunity to move to a red state and still **live within driving distance** of their family in western Oregon.

**4. SELF DETERMINATION:** Moving the border allows each side of the state to get the kind of governance that is desired by the majority of local residents. Oregon would no longer hold eastern Oregon captive against its will, and eastern Oregon votes would no longer affect Oregon elections.

**5. NOT A LOSS:** The state government owns only 3% of the land in these counties. It’s almost all federal or private land. The state government does not collect property taxes, so it has little to lose from the border relocation. The state government’s assets and liabilities would be divided fairly on a per-capita basis. Eastern Oregon has 9% of the population of Oregon (380,000 residents in 2022).