

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Be Adopted
Vote: 5 - 0 - 0
Yeas: George, Schrader, Starr, Verger, Metsger
Nays: -
Exc.: -
Prepared By: Jim Stembridge, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 5/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Recognizes the importance of Oregon small businesses to Oregon's economy. Resolves that Oregon small businesses, as stakeholders and key contributors to the state's economy, be taken into account when considering and enacting legislation.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of small business in Oregon
- *Small Business Bill of Rights*
- Equal access to economic development tools
- Tax burden of small business vs. corporations

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: On November 29, 2007, the Portland City Council adopted the *Small Business Bill of Rights*, resolving to include the *Small Business Bill of Rights* as a resource when considering policies, regulatory action, and government action that impact small business. While HJR 43 does not directly reference the *Small Business Bill of Rights*, it contains many of the same concepts. Proponents of HJR 43 assert that it is important to recognize the contribution of small businesses to the Oregon economy as small businesses represent 98 percent of Oregon's approximately 112,200 employers, with a slight majority, about 51 percent, of Oregon employees.