



# RADIO CAB

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MEASURE: SB 1588  
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SUBMITTED BY: Darin Campbell

**House Business and Labor Committee**

**Hearing on SB 1588, 2-20-2012**

**Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,**

**My name is Darin Campbell; I live in Portland, Oregon and am here today representing Radio Cab Company. Along with representing Radio Cabs legislative needs I am also an Owner/Operator with the company.**

**Radio Cab has operated in Portland since 1946 and is currently one of the largest cab companies in the State of Oregon. Radio Cab owner/operator drivers own 100% of the shares in the corporation, in addition to the vehicles we drive. Currently Radio Cab has approximately 160 owner/operators and around 300 lease drivers all acting as independent businesses.**

**In recent years Radio Cab has come under fire from the Employment Divisions Audits Dept. Auditors came to Radio Cab last year and spent several days pouring over our records to come to the conclusion that our drivers were operating as employees and that the company owed the state nearly \$360,000.**

**Radio Cab has always operated with drivers that act as independent contractors. Our drivers work the hours they want, accept the orders they want and work the areas they want to work. The owners, such as me, are responsible for all maintenance and upkeep of the vehicles.**

**The City of Portland recognizes each driver as their own business where if we make over a certain amount we are required to pay City of Portland business taxes.**

**SB 1588 would exempt certain cab drivers from employee status for the purposes of unemployment compensation. Taxi drivers are not eligible to receive unemployment compensation even though some have tried. To my**

knowledge, none of the drivers that have filed for unemployment compensation have been accepted.

SB 1588 does have a Fiscal impact. We believe this impact is solely a result from the assessments imposed by the Employment Department. Those monies are currently under appeal. Prior to those assessments being brought against Radio Cab, there were no monies paid into the UI fund. There has only been one payment made to the state and that was less than three months ago. If Radio Cab wins the appeal then the fiscal impact will be zero.

If this legislation does not pass we will have to completely change the way we operate as an industry. Costs to the driver will increase significantly and we would be forced to work certain areas, accept orders regardless if we want them or not and would have scheduled lunch and breaks. We would lose the freedoms that many of us love about this work. Our ability to prosper and grow our own clientele will suffer. The cost that would be burdened on us would be great enough that I believe many drivers may not be able to make ends meet. These freedoms are the ones that make our industry competitive and customer service friendly.

I would ask that you pass SB 1588 to the floor un-amended and with a do pass recommendation.

Thank you and I will answer any questions you may have.