



Beaverton Area Chamber of Commerce
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NEWS RELEASE

December 10, 2012 - For immediate release

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Chamber Says "Just Do it" for Nike! Special Session this Friday - JOBS!

(Beaverton, Ore.) - **Governor Kitzhaber calls for a Special Session Friday, Dec. 14th to Provide Stability to Corporate Taxation in Oregon**

Nike wants to grow. Nike wants to grow in Oregon! Over 12,000 jobs could be the result in a planned investment if the Oregon legislature will do one relatively simple thing - provide Nike with a predictable and stable corporate tax structure. Unlike some companies, Nike is not asking for a tax break of any kind. Just stability so they can plan for their future. It is important to note that Nike looked not only all over the US, but considered global locations as well. The Chamber believes that if the Legislature does the right thing and provides this confidence and stability, not only will this investment go forward, but has the potential to keep and attract other companies to expand here in Oregon in the future.

We communicated with our local delegation and have strongly encouraged them to give the Governor authority to stabilize the state's corporate tax methodology to allow companies to make substantial investments in Oregon for jobs and growth. When I talk with CEOs and ask them what keeps them from expanding, growing and hiring more employees, almost universally I hear "the fear of the unknown" when it comes to taxes. If we want to get a grip on the road to economic recovery and job growth, this is the way our government and legislature (state and federal) can begin to do it. Corporations need predictability to plan for their future. Let's just do this!

Lorraine Clarno, President/CEO



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Friday's Special Session – A Positive Start for ALL Oregon Businesses

(Beaverton, Ore.) - The Stabilization of Corporate Taxes in Oregon is Vital for Continued Investment & Job Creation

Monday's announcement from Governor Kitzhaber regarding Nike's desire to invest and expand in Oregon was welcomed news! As our president/CEO, Lorraine Clarno, shared yesterday this is a positive step forward for businesses large and small in Oregon – not just for Nike or Washington County. The Beaverton Area Chamber of Commerce and its board of directors has been advocating for corporate tax stability and predictability for over a decade. Businesses plan and grow based on their ability to analyze and predict their future.

Giving the Governor authority to provide binding assurance that the single sales factor tax policy for companies investing at least \$150 million and creating at least 500 jobs for a fixed period of time will not change is a win for all – a first step and a door opening to begin discussions about corporate taxes for ALL businesses in Oregon. It is also important to note that Nike is not asking for a tax break of any form – just tax stability. While the scale and numbers differ, small and medium sized businesses grow based on their ability to plan and predict as well and we know they are the largest pool of job creators.

Oregon cannot pass up this opportunity. Nike's investment and potential creation of 12,000 direct and indirect jobs should be viewed as a catalyst for getting Oregon back on the road to economic recovery.

As small and medium sized businesses in Beaverton, we strongly support a positive vote at Friday's Special Session and urge our members & citizens to let their legislators know how important this is for all Oregon businesses.

Wendi Eiland, American Family Insurance – Wendi Eiland Agency, Inc.
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