

April 10, 2013

To: Oregon State House Committee on Revenue
From: Main Street Alliance of Oregon
Re: Support for HB2456

Chair Barnhart and Committee Members,

The Main Street Alliance of Oregon is a coalition of over 1200 small businesses across the state in support of HB2456.

Closing corporate tax loopholes, especially ones that allow for offshore tax havens is sensible and equitable. We feel, as small business owners, that when corporations use offshore tax haven loopholes to avoid their tax responsibility they are robbing schools, public safety, roads and highways and the public at large. Everyone needs to contribute their fair share to the common good of our cities, states and country. Small businesses who are paying their share of taxes are put at a distinct competitive disadvantage when corporation pay none or very little of their fair share.

From July 2012 to March 2013, Main Street Alliance of Oregon surveyed 390 small businesses from all over Oregon. An overwhelming majority, 82%, said they would support closing corporate tax loopholes to increase revenues before making further budget cuts. Furthermore, 77% said that they feel big corporations currently pay *less* than their fair share of taxes. When it comes to taxes on individuals, we found that 73% agree with ending tax breaks for individuals with incomes above \$125,000, and couples with income of \$250,000 a year.

The bottom line for Oregon small businesses is that HB2456 would raise the \$275 million the legislature needs to balance the 2013-15 budget and pay for the public services small businesses and our communities need.

We urge you to support HB2456.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this manner.

Yours respectfully,



Jim Houser, co-chair
Hawthorne Auto Clinic, Portland



Mark Kellenbeck, co-chair
BrainJoy LLC, Medford

The **MAIN STREET**
Alliance of Oregon

a big vision for small business