



Oregon State Chamber of Commerce

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2013 Session
Joint Committee on
Ways and Means
General Government

Bill #: HB 3436

Pages: 1

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To Members of the Joint Ways and Means Committee on General Government:

The Oregon State Chamber of Commerce is in strong opposition to House Bill 3436. We are perplexed by the notion that government needs to intervene in the benefit decisions made by Oregon's small businesses.

The last thing Oregon needs is another government board to create directives for private sector retirement planning. Retirement planning choices for individuals exist throughout our great state and will continue to provide viable options for all Oregon employees without the intervention of a new government board.

Oregon has major challenges as it relates to jobs and the economy. We continue to advocate for the Oregon Legislature to focus on any pro-active steps we can take that create incentives for the private sector to create jobs and put Oregonians back to work.

Oregon's small businesses will not put up with another layer of bureaucracy that is completely unfounded. Government is not the solution to society's ills and if it was, we would have a long standing track record of successful government interventions that have saved our communities and our local economies.

We respectfully ask that you move House Bill 3436 aside and focus on priority issues for the duration of the legislative session.

There is still time for Democrats and Republicans to come together and solve the issues that are crippling our local economies. More significant PERS reform would be a great place to start. Creating additional incentives for small businesses to create jobs would be another impressive step.

Oregon's Chambers of Commerce are here to help. If you are interested in putting Oregon back to work, we will stand by you and support you in your efforts. We hope you understand why House Bill 3436 is the last thing Oregon's small businesses need right now.

We ask that you take our official position to heart as there is no organization in this state that is closer to the grassroots network of Oregon's small businesses than the 64 local Chambers of Commerce that make up the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce.

Sincerely,

Oregon State Chamber of Commerce Legislative Committee
Bernie Bottomly, Portland Business Alliance
Jason Brandt, Salem Area Chamber of Commerce
Christine Dieker, Keizer Chamber of Commerce
Debbie Fromdahl, Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce
Steve Gilmore, Wilsonville Area Chamber of Commerce
Brad Hicks, Medford/Jackson County Chamber of Commerce
Debbie Pedro, Hermiston Chamber of Commerce
Janet Steele, Albany Area Chamber of Commerce

