



## OREGON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

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Chair Bailey and Members of the House Energy and Environment Committee,

Oregon is a state that continues to lag behind national averages when it comes to economic recovery. Growing the economy is a key pillar of the Oregon Business Association's Legislative Agenda. By focusing on economic development projects to further stimulate job growth and income, our goal is to increase education investment, reduce poverty, and generate higher per capita income.

In the 2009 session, the legislature passed a law that sunsets one-third of all income tax credits every biennium. Accordingly, the legislature will review a number of credits in the 2013 session.

OBA will focus on tax credits that directly have to do with business and supports the following:

1. Have a well-defined purpose,
2. Include mechanisms to objectively evaluate whether the purpose has been achieved,
3. Not be excessively burdensome on government or the participants, and
4. Promote one or more of the following goals:
  - a. Encourage innovation and intellectual property,
  - b. Cultivate Oregon's leadership position in environmental quality and clean technology,
  - c. Support traded-sector job growth,
  - d. Grow Oregon's per capita income, in line with OBA's stated goal.

Applying these principles, OBA is currently supporting only three tax credits this session. On the top of that short list is the Manufacturing Energy Tax Credit. Oregon is a leader in renewable energy and this tax credit is a key part of that success.

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