



## OREGON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

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### **Oregon Business Association**

To: Chair Clem and Members of the House Rural Communities Committee  
From: Joel Fischer, Senior Policy Analyst, OBA  
Date: February 18, 2014  
Re: Entrepreneurial Development Loan Fund

Chair Clem and Members of the House Rural Communities Committee,

OBA believes and healthy business environment is essential for economic growth. Access to affordable credit is essential for entrepreneurs. Expanding the Entrepreneurial Development Loan Fund (EDLF) cap from \$70,000 to \$100,000 will provide an added boost of support to the many entrepreneurs and small businesses that are growing Oregon's economy because of this fund.

OBA believes that economic development in rural Oregon is just as important as economic development in the Willamette Valley. The economy in rural Oregon has not seen the same gains in recent years that Oregon's urban centers have. Notably, over half of the businesses that received an EDLF loan in recent years are located outside of Portland, Salem and Eugene.

Expanding the cap will support further investment in new technology, new equipment and most importantly, new jobs. We urge your support.

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