

PERMAPOST**PRESSURE TREATING AND FABRICATED WOOD PRODUCTS**4066 SE Tualatin Valley Highway • P.O. Box 100 • Hillsboro, OR 97123
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February 1, 2016

Senator Michael Denbrow
State Capital Building
900 Court Street, NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Senate Bill 1532

Dear Senator Denbrow,

My name is Jayne Bond and I am president of Permapost Products Company, a small business in Hillsboro, Oregon. We are a family owned, woman run wood fabrication and preservative treating company started by my parents in 1957. Permapost manufacturers and markets wood products nationally and internationally. We sell wood bridges and recreation equipment to the US Forest Service regionally in the 11 western states with the majority of projects outside of Oregon. Permapost employs 23 workers in our manufacturing facility, many that have been employed with us for over 20 years.

Permapost feels there should not be an increase in the state minimum wage as outlined in Senate bill 1532. Oregon currently has one of the highest minimum wage structures in the US, and has a built in annual inflation factor. Increasing the minimum wage exponentially increases our labor costs with the added increases in FICA taxes, state unemployment taxes, worker's compensation premiums, and Tri-Met taxes, all of which are based on wages.

Senate bill 1532 hurts small business. We buy our raw materials for manufacturing our products from suppliers in Oregon. Our supplier's costs will also increase. Most of our sales are from successful bids on government contracts. Higher labor costs and material costs will hurt our ability to be successful bidders when competing with out of state bidders. Lowered sales reduces the number of employees needed to manufacture products.

Senate bill 1532 hurts small business employees. Permapost has always paid above minimum wage for entry-level workers. We strive to provide good benefit packages with paid health insurance, profit sharing, and paid vacation. This year, we have added the

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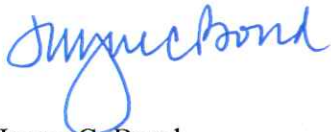
state mandated sick leave program as part of our paid time off policy. Increasing the minimum wage raises all wages up and forces small business to review other benefit costs in an overall package.

Senate bill 1532 hurts small business and hurts small business employees.

Please vote "no" on Senate bill 1532.

Sincerely,

PERMAPOST PRODUCTS COMPANY



Jayne C. Bond
President