

Dear Representative Barker,

I came to Central Oregon two years ago to prototype a flying car, with the goal of having our first production facility here. We are expecting to move into production the end of this year, after completing the prototype process and initial flight testing. We have the capability to hire between 70-110 employees over the next two years, however the mandated wages from SB 1532 are so ridiculous that we would obviously move to Reno, which is currently our second choice location.

I worked for a very low minimum wage when I was hired for my first jobs while in high school. It was expected that I wouldn't get a high wage, as I was seasonal (summer mostly), had no experience, and would most likely move on to another job next summer. But it was nice to have a job, and I did gain experience which enabled me the next few years to gain a better job with higher pay. Being able to have some successful experience was key to that.

The employers I had generally liked me, and offered higher wages to have me back. I did return to one job the following year for that reason (plus I liked the work). The bottom line is we need a reasonably low wage for employers to take on the beginning levels of employment, and allow young people to gain experience and the chance to have a better future by proving themselves worthy of a higher wage.

Please do not consider this bill as being in the best interests of the residents of Oregon. I certainly don't.

Sincerely,

Sam Bousfield