



March 6, 2017

Oregon House of Representatives
Chair Paul Holvey
House Committee on Business and Labor
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Holvey and Members of the House Committee on Business and Labor,


The Albany Area Chamber represents 560 businesses with over 20,000 employees in the Albany area. A majority of these businesses have less than 10 employees and many are dependent on a variety of variables for their employee needs. They have no control over the weather, the whim of the buyers, road construction projects, sick employees, employees with car problems, employees with family issues, etc. This bill would make them know two weeks in advance what all those variables will be and be penalized when they don't.

How often have you had plans made and in just a few short minutes or hours those plans have to be radically changed? That's what this bill is penalizing these businesses for, for not knowing two weeks in advance that there will be a snow storm that shuts the city down, schools are closed and people are advised not to drive, that scheduled employees didn't show up so others need to be called in, or that no customers were walking into the business that day.

I know hundreds of business owners/managers and many of their employees, these business owners/managers have the best interest of their employees in mind every day when they open up their doors. They want their employees at work, they want to be productive and keep their businesses open. With all the variables that a business faces day to day common sense tells us that this bill and its proposed requirements will be another barrier to doing business in Oregon.

Let's not penalize an employer for not being clairvoyant or not having a crystal ball that tells them two weeks out what all the variables will be. Please vote against HB 2193.

Sincerely,


Janet Steele
President