

Oppose 2169: It's About Fairness

- Current law allows the Court the discretion to award attorney fees to the prevailing party, whether they are the Plaintiff (employee) or Defendant (employer).
- HB 2169 changes the law so that *only Plaintiff Employees* can recover attorneys' fees in wage and hour lawsuits. This change creates an imbalance between the employers and employees in the legal system.
- An award of attorney fees serves as an important threshold for Plaintiffs considering to sue their employer. Meritless lawsuits cost employers thousands in attorneys' fees.
- Just last session, the employer community supported adding additional enforcement positions to BOLI to work with employers on this problem. That program has only been in place for a short time. Before going in a different direction, the legislature should review and analyze the results of this most recent expenditure.

Please Oppose HB 2169 and Maintain Fairness

Associated General Contractors

Associated Oregon Industries

Building Owners & Managers Association

Chamber of Medford/Jackson County

Columbia Gorge Fruit Growers

National Federation of Independent Businesses

Northwest Food Processors Association

Northwest Auto Trades Association

Oregon Association of Nurseries

Oregon Business Association

Oregon Dairy Farmers Association

Oregon Farm Bureau

Oregon Homebuilders Association

Oregon Metals Industry Council

Oregon Plumbing, Heating & Cooling Contractors

Oregon Power Sports Association

Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association

Oregon School Boards Association

Oregon Seed Council

Oregon State Chambers of Commerce

Oregon Trucking Association

Oregon Vehicles Dealers Association

For more information, contact Betsy Earls, AOI, 503.508.0330