

June 6, 2017

Dear HB 2017 Committee,

My husband and I own a small thriving bicycle and outdoor sporting good sales and repair venue in downtown La Grande. We are contacting you regarding the upcoming Oregon Legislative Department of Transportation House Bill Budget 2017 to 2019 biennium. As you are aware, the budget proposes a 3% tax on the sale of all bicycles exceeding 26" wheel size and priced at \$500 or greater. We stand opposed to this for a number of reasons, but most importantly, the bill is selective in exempting low priced bikes such as those sold at Wal-Mart and other chain stores.

The bicycles that meet the requirements for not being taxed are those sold, in mass, to the largest percentage of users that would benefit from an emphasis on separate bike and pedestrian paths. That group contains; young families, first time bicycle purchasers and users not comfortable or dedicated enough to spend the additional monies to get a well-researched and designed bike. Said low quality purchases are made at a higher frequency then that of quality bicycle purchases. As such, the resulting revenue would soon outpace the proposed taxation of only bicycles worth over \$500.

Downtown retail is, in general, a very challenging market. I implore you not to give my main competition, the internet and chain stores, yet another advantage. If bicycle sales must be taxed, please tax all sales not just those of quality. On a side note, if revenue must be found bicycle licensure may be able to raise revenue while fighting the bicycle thefts that are plaguing our cyclists.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mavis Hartz". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Mavis Hartz

Mountain Works Bicycles

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