



EXECUTIVE OFFICE
HAMPTON LUMBER

9600 SW Barnes Road
Suite 200
Portland, Oregon 97225-6666
Telephone 503.297-7691
Fax 503.203-6618
www.HamptonAffiliates.com

Via electronic transmission to lro.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

June 20, 2017

The Honorable Mark Hass
The Honorable Phil Barnhart
Co-chairs, Joint Committee on Tax Reform
900 Court Street, NE
Room 354
Salem, OR 97310

Re: HB 2830 Work Session

I am writing today to urge you to oppose HB 2830, a gross receipts tax that would have a devastating impact on our lumber business. Hampton Lumber is a family-owned, vertically integrated wood products company with four sawmills and wholesale business in Oregon. Our wholesale brokerage sells over 4 billion board feet of lumber and panel products, including production from our own sawmills. The gross receipts tax you are considering would be detrimental to our wholesale operation with its high sales volume and low profit margins.

Measure 97 was voted down because Oregonians recognize the negative impact a gross receipts tax would have on both local businesses and consumers. Crafting reasonable and effective tax policy takes time and broad stakeholder involvement. Unfortunately, rushed and poorly conceived tax policies such as those outlined in HB 2830 will only hurt Oregon businesses and economic growth in the state. I urge you to take the time needed to get this right and work with the business community to come up with a balanced approach that includes both revenue generation and cost-cutting measures.

Very truly yours,
HAMPTON LUMBER

STEVE ZIKA
Chief Executive Officer