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Oregon State House Committee on Business and Labor

Chair Holvey, Vice Chair Barreto, Vice Chair Bynum, and Members of the Committee,

I urge you to support and vote favorably on House Bill 2180.

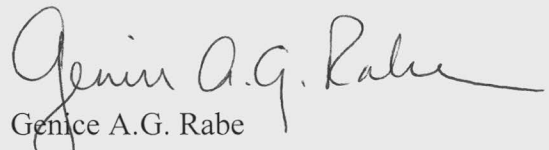
HB 2180 creates a new tool for workers to recoup from their employer compensation for wages earned, but not paid.

HB 2180 is very important. The Northwest Workers' Justice Project, BOLI, and other entities have judgments for millions of dollars of unpaid wages, but those judgments are uncollectible. It takes a long time to obtain a judgment. And in the intervening time the employer disappears or at the time judgment issues has no assets. HB 2180 would go a long way to solve this problem.

This bill allows a worker with a wage claim to file notice "lis pendens" on the employer's property. If the worker subsequently receives a judgment, the date of the judgment relates back to the date of the lis pendens notice. Then the worker can collect on the employer's property as of the date of the notice.

Thank-you for your consideration of HB 2180. I urge you to approve this bill and forward it with a do pass recommendation.

Respectfully,


Genice A.G. Rabe