



February 10, 2017

Subject: Enterprise Zone support for business growth

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Jim McConnell and together, with my wife, we started and have run a growing corporation in the State of Oregon for nearly 18 years. Our growth was always decent but the taxes we had to pay hindered our growth. In September of 2010, we moved into our current location from our previous city, Eugene. Jon Stark informed us of the Enterprise Zone that we qualified for at that time. We were able to utilize the tax savings to grow our business and hire new employees. We moved to Redmond with 6 employees and now we have approximately 30 employees. The new employees are a direct result of our qualifying and utilizing the Enterprise Zone Exemption.

If the State of Oregon decides to eliminate the Enterprise Zone benefit, it will make it more difficult for companies to grow in our state. It may even make it so difficult that what few advantages we have over our neighboring states that we will lose businesses to Washington and Idaho.

Please keep the Enterprise Zone Exemption for small, growing companies.

Best regards,

James McConnell
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