



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Board of Tax Practitioners

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**Before the
House Committee on Revenue
February 22, 2017
HB 2157**

Testimony of

Howard Moyes, Executive Director, Board of Tax Practitioners

Chair Rep. Barnhart, Vice-Chairs Reps. Bentz and Smith Warner, and members of the Committee. My name is Howard Moyes and I am the Executive Director of the Oregon Board of Tax Practitioners.

Thank you for allowing me to appear before you to testify briefly about HB 2157. The Board does not have a formal position on this bill and is remaining neutral. The purpose of my appearance is to request – should this bill be moved by the committee – a friendly amendment clarifying the professionals covered under this bill.

In its current form, HB 2157 inadvertently excludes approximately 3,500 licensed tax practitioners in the State of Oregon. These practitioners prepare Oregon tax returns for businesses and consumers and represent both businesses and consumers before the Department of Revenue. As such, the Board respectfully requests consideration be given to an amendment that would either add professionals licensed under ORS 673.615, or use more generic language referring to those properly licensed to provide tax services to Oregonians.

Thank you for the opportunity to put the Board's comments on the record. I would be happy to answer any questions from the committee.