

**From:** Connor Smith  
**To:** [LRO](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony on SB 1527  
**Date:** Monday, February 5, 2018 7:49:09 PM

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Chair Hass and members of the Senate Finance and Revenue Committee,

In reference to Section 10 of SB 1527, this committee should repeal the business pass-through. This legislation, passed in a special session in 2013, primarily benefits the high earning businesses, which are arguably not small.

The state has been operating in austerity mode for far too long. I see the effects of chronic underfunding every day where I work, at a Portland area middle school. Most of my students are living in poverty, with no opportunities to “get ahead” in a system designed to keep them out. Many support staff at the school do not make a living wage. School sports are often a useful tool for teen self-empowerment, but the students do not even have that, which is commonplace in Oregon but unheard of at most middle schools across the country. We should be retaining all \$200 million per biennium from this pass-through to fund our children’s futures, not to line the pockets of high earning business owners.

Respectfully,

Connor Smith