

From: Joni S.
To: [LRO](#)
Subject: SB1529
Date: Sunday, February 4, 2018 9:33:24 PM

Dear People;

I'm writing to ask you to:

Get rid of the Oregon personal tax break on the income of business owners in SB 1527. This will save \$200 million a biennium.

Don't allow the new business owners' tax break that Trump and Congress passed to apply to Oregon taxes. Disconnect in SB 1529—this will save another \$400 million a biennium.

Consider the following:

- How should the \$600 million a biennium saved for the General Fund by these two actions be spent? Two and a half weeks of school a year? Pay down the PERS liability? Staff up our underfunded departments? Reduce tuition?
- Should your neighbor who is a clerk, package handler, school teacher or engineer pay higher taxes than you because you own a technology business, day care, or landscaping company?
- Return to our Oregon values where all income is taxed the same.
- Business owners should make or break it based on their business, not based on the Oregon tax code.
- Under today's law, a couple with \$17,000 of taxable income would be in Oregon's 9% tax bracket, while business owners would only pay 7% on that same amount of business income. In fact, business owners get tax breaks on the first \$5 million of income! The average couple is paying a higher tax rate than business owners with millions in income. The new Federal law adds even more benefits. This is not ok!
- Are you tired of hearing the owner class extolled as somehow better than the rest of us?
- This is one small way to address income inequality.
- Not only is this policy costly, it is also poorly targeted, with 99 percent of the benefit flowing to folks making over \$100,000 per year.
- Employees need Oregon services even less than business owners, so why should owners get a tax break?
- The reduced tax rate for certain owners of pass-through businesses

is a flawed policy, and should be eliminated. This year.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Joni Stoneking
Hillsboro, OR
97124

The future is uncertain because love changes everything.