



Chairs Roblan and Holvey and Members of the Committee

For over four decades the Oregon Women's Rights Coalition has not only advocated for programs that serve struggling Oregonian but has spent thousands of hours studying and advocating for a fair and equitable tax system to fund the needs of all Oregonians.

It is with that background that OWRC supports efforts to address the needs of struggling and vulnerable Oregonians facing job loss, economic insecurity and disruption of life as we know it due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Oregon Center for Public Policy has outlined strategies that Oregon could utilize through the Unemployment system. We applaud their efforts and ask that the legislature adopt those changes which require legislative action and/or direct the Employment Department to address those that require only administrative action.

Lastly, we urge extreme caution in toying with the existing revenue system. Since the 1980's the share of general fund dollars provided by business has decreased from 18 percent to hover at around 5 %. Those decreases have resulted in more and more tax burden through the personal income tax. The newly enacted CAT tax does not kick in until a business or corporation has over a million (\$1,000,000) in activity. Likewise, knee jerk tax credits should be avoided.

Oregon requires a balanced budget, unlike the Federal government. We must maintain revenues to provide the services that Oregonians need. Businesses will best be served by healthy, stable, housed and educated Oregon workers.

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