
On Aug 4, 2020, at 10:29 AM, Bennett Minton <bennettminton@yahoo.com> wrote:

Chair Nathanson:

Tax Fairness Oregon is delighted that you have scheduled a hearing on a proposal to disconnect from provisions of the CARES Act. As you know, we have been advocating disconnection for months. In testimony before Ways and Means subcommittees two weeks ago, we urged disconnection from four of its most skewed provisions.

I write to ask whether we may support with oral and written testimony. We would address any or all of the following points:

- Once again (as was the case with Opportunity Zones), Congress is giving away Oregon taxpayers' money
- These provisions direct Oregon funds mostly to people least affected by the COVID recession
- In particular, the Joint Committee on Taxation estimated that 95% percent of the federal benefit from the suspension of the limitation on excess business losses for non-corporate taxpayers would go to individuals reporting income of more than \$200,000 (89% to taxpayers reporting at least \$500,000); we assume the distributional effects from other provisions are similar
- Two of the provisions, at a revenue loss to Oregon of \$180 million in this biennium, undo limits Congress put on the deduction of losses as a part of lowering rates in 2017
- As Congress continues to direct largess in ways that conflict with Oregon's statutory tax principles (ORS 316.003), the legislature should consider "opting out" of the federal tax code

Thank you for your consideration.

Bennett Minton
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