

Government kills business and jobs! I know, a bold statement, but bear with me.

I owned and operated a general automotive repair shop, and a all Honda recycling business (also known as a wrecking yard).

Because of minimum wage escalation, paid family medical leave, mandatory medical coverage, and the City of Portland's "Unreinforced masonry building" project, I closed both businesses, eliminated dozens of jobs, sold the buildings, and did 1031 exchanges into apartments. I have no employees, valued longtime residents, all outside Portland, and I thought life was good.

Then along came SB 608. I am certain there must be some horror story somewhere that is the catalyst for this Senate bill, but I can tell you that my customers do not have a problem, and neither do I. The last thing we need is another law, imposing on business owners.

I ask that you inquire of those promoting this Senate Bill, where the problem is, how big is the problem, and how can it be fixed without a statewide restrictions on rent and evictions? And, if you do pass this law, please include a Sunset clause, so that you can look at this 3 to 5 years from now and see, Did it solve whatever problem it was trying to fix, AND what were the unintended consequences.

Gary Coe  
Coe Properties LLC  
503 789 2071