



Date: 3/12/2019

To: The Honorable Chair Representative Williamson, Vice Chair Representative Gorsek, Vice-Chair Sprenger and Members of the House Judiciary Committee

From: Ashley Henry, Executive Director, Businesses for a Better Portland

RE: Position statement on HB 2866, Data Transparency and Privacy Protections

Chair Williamson, Vice Chair Gorsek, Vice Chair Sprenger, and members of the House Judiciary Committee:

I am the Executive Director of Businesses for a Better Portland, a membership organization representing over 300 small and medium-sized businesses in the Portland Metro area. Our members come from a variety of sectors including technology, design, architecture, grocery, and retail. Most of our members of course rely on technologies, applications and services like PayPal, Facebook, Mailchimp, Instagram, Asana, Google, Youtube, and so many more to conduct their business.

Small to medium-sized businesses that comprise the bulk of our membership make up a huge percentage of the consumer base for these technologies and services. We have concerns about the data collection practices of these companies. Currently, potentially proprietary information such as supply order size and/or frequency, transactions, sales analytics, and even phone conversations, may be collected. This could put our members at a great disadvantage if information about their businesses is sold to the highest bidder,

even a competitor. Our members shouldn't have to worry that just by using applications and services they need to conduct their business could put them at risk of having information about their business collected and sold.

That's why Businesses for a Better Portland supports HB 2866. Our members deserve to know what is being collected and where it is being sold. HB 2866 is an important step in empowering small and medium businesses through information so they can make the best choices for their companies. Without HB 2866 our members will continue to not know what data is being collected and to whom it is being sold. Data transparency and privacy protections will be an asset to existing businesses, and it will be another attractive feature about doing business in Oregon.

Chair Williamson, Vice Chair Gorsek, Vice Chair Spenger, members of the committee we urge you to support the passage of HB 2866 to empower and protect small businesses like ours across the state.

Thank you,