

From: [Traci Brumbles](#)
To: [JWMTR Exhibits](#)
Subject: written testimony for March 18th
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I'm impressed with the sudden communication and call to action that ALSO is engaged in. Over the past several years, I've asked myself "what am I paying membership dues for?"

No, I am not happy with the compensation. My employees on minimum wage are getting close to making nearly what I am. Perhaps that's being overdramatic since we're a very small non-exclusive store near the bottom of the statewide rankings, but clearly the state isn't interested in their most productive employees.

Assuming OLCC will require me to continue to use their credit/debit machine, I am not happy about paying those fees. I doubt the 1% bump will cover that. We have a pretty good deal going through our grocery supplier for reduced rates, and I would prefer to just run everything through one system and cover it with cash at deposit.

Because we're in a very rural area (nearest OLCC agent is 17 miles away), we haven't been impacted by expansion, but can see the day when they allow licensees to sell off-premises – perhaps?

Operating expenses continue to rise and those expenses are obviously passed on – that's how you maintain your business. However, when we have no control over pricing or profit margins, we're stuck in a position of just providing a service. As a small store operator, I have little opportunity or support in merchandising or otherwise increasing sales. And, what's my motivation when the reward is a breakeven or worse.

Unfortunately, I will not be able to join you in a showing of support in Salem, but I hope you have a reasonable turnout of committed agents. Keep up the good work and keep us all informed.

If it helps or the opportunity arises, please feel free to share my comments.

Thank you

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