



April 4, 2019

SB750 – Oregon Corporate Accountability Act

Chair Taylor and Members of the Committee:

Please accept this letter of support on behalf of United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 555 for the Oregon Corporate Accountability Act. UFCW Local 555 is Oregon's largest private sector union and represents over 25,000 workers in Oregon and Southwest Washington. We represent workers in many industries, including retail, meatpacking, healthcare, and more. Our members are proud to be a strong collective voice for working people.

UFCW Local 555's members are pleased to provide support for SB750. Our members have worked hard to help advocate for important labor standards in the past five years including a higher minimum wage, earned sick leave, equal pay guarantees, and fair workweek. We are concerned at how limited resources has restricted the ability of the Bureau of Labor & Industries (BOLI) to enforce these rights for workers.

The Oregon Corporate Accountability Act serves only to enforce our current laws. SB750 provides a viable way through a proven model to enhance the ability of BOLI to provide protections for workers under existing statutes. SB750 levels the playing field between employers who are following the law and those who are not, while providing additional resources – to be paid by those breaking the laws – to BOLI to further its mission.

Under the -1 Amendment, SB750 will be narrowed to only cover serious workplace violations. It is not designed to allow actions for items such as minor paystub violations or other posting/reporting violations. SB750 sends an important message to those employers who feel ignoring regulations can be done at a reasonable risk given the current limited resources for enforcement.

Ignoring labor laws hurts working families and puts law-abiding companies at a competitive disadvantage. UFCW Local 555 urges your support of SB750.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Jeff Anderson'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeff Anderson
Secretary-Treasurer
UFCW Local 555