

I support this proposal wholeheartedly and would gladly accept an additional employee tax to ensure access to these types of benefits for myself and my fellow working Oregonians. Passing this legislature would demonstrate that Oregon values caregiving, family, and individual well-being while recognizing the vital contribution that individual employees have on our economic future as a state and society. No person should have to choose losing their livelihood over caring for themselves, their child, or their loved one during a time of need. It is a travesty to democracy that the United States has not adopted policies with this support especially given that all other Western countries provide this support to their citizens. Passing this legislation in Oregon would help bring this issue to the national fore-front. It would likely draw amazing talent from all over the United States and allow Oregon to retain an educated, dynamic workforce – both of which would ultimately boost Oregon’s economy. These policies are what people want for themselves and their future – studies and research back this claim time and again. While it may be difficult for businesses to adjust, adjust they will. It is time for business to adjust to what is good for the people rather than the people constantly adjusting to what is good for business. Please pass this legislation for Oregonians. Thank you for taking the time to read this testimony.

Respectfully,
Kathleen Ludgate
Multnomah County Voter