

Senator Burdick,

I am writing to urge you to vote against any bill to eliminate or reduce the Mortgage Interest Deduction, specifically SB 852, which impacts both primary and secondary residences. We are in the midst of a global pandemic with extreme economic uncertainty and historic swings in unemployment. It may take our economy years to recover - we cannot add to the expense of owning a home. Homeowners rely on the existing Mortgage Interest Deduction when determining what they can afford.

The Portland real estate market already has affordability and inventory issues which are being accentuated during this pandemic. Adjusting tax benefits to those who are able to seek housing in this market will have negative impacts on the financial status of homeowners. I urge you to vote against this measure this term especially.

Megan Banta
Hasson Company Realtors