



## Oregon Society of Certified Public Accountants

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### **2021 Oregon Legislative Assembly Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on General Government Written Testimony related to SB 5537 – Support**

**Date: March 31, 2021**

Good afternoon, Co-Chair Senator Golden, Co-Chair Representative Smith, and Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on General Government

On behalf of over 4,100 members of the OSCP, we respectfully encourage **support** related to **SB 5537**.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

We understand the importance of a properly funded Oregon Department of Revenue (DOR). Appropriate funding will enable the DOR to continue to provide important service to a variety of individual taxpayers, businesses of all sizes and tax professionals. During this difficult time, support and service are vitally important.

We are aware of the efforts of the Oregon Department of Revenue staff to enhance communications, assist via call centers, and to obtain feedback from various stakeholders. These efforts provide for important customer service which is important to Oregonians and others. Approval of the budget will also enable the DOR to enhance IT and support.

Related, we also urge continued conformity between Oregon and Federal tax code. Supporting conformity, and not disconnecting from various federal statutes and provisions, is in the best interest of Oregon taxpayers and the Oregon Department of Revenue. Without conformity, Oregon must write and maintain its own tax code – a significant and complex undertaking. Not only would this mean that individual and business taxpayers would have to attempt to follow two different sets of tax code, one at the national level and one at the state level, but it would certainly require more time and focus from the Oregon Department of Revenue to maintain the Oregon tax code. We urge support both in approval of DOR's budget and continued conformity.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

On behalf of Oregon Society of CPAs, we respectfully encourage you to **support Senate Bill 5537** and pass the Oregon Department of Revenue budget as presented.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our support today.

Contact: Rob Douglas, RPD Company, Salem

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