

The Covid-19 Pandemic has posed severe challenges for small businesses in Oregon and especially for hospitality-related businesses (e.g. restaurants and hotels) that have struggled to remain open under state imposed restrictions and solvent given the dramatic effects of the the mandated guidelines. The PPP funds received by these businesses have been vital in keeping these businesses in a position to reopen and eventually become profitable. Taxing the funds intended to sustain businesses attempting to reopen would be one more obstacle in their effort to remain viable.

Businesses now reopening already face many challenges including recruitment of employees, state mandated minimum wage increases, increases in commodity prices, supply chain issues, and increased business taxes, to name a few. Do legislators really believe these small businesses should be taxed on PPP funds, given the hardships the pandemic has inflicted?