



February 3, 2022

Senate Rules Committee
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Wagner, Vice-Chair Knopp, and Members of the Senate Rules Committee:

The Portland Business Alliance (the Alliance) is greater Portland's Chamber of Commerce and represents the largest, most diverse network of businesses in the region. The Alliance advocates for business at all levels of government to support commerce, community health, and the region's overall prosperity. We represent over 2,000 members, from 27 counties, 13 states, and virtually every industry sector. More than 80% of our members are small businesses.

It is on behalf of our small business members that we offer our support to SB 1566. The meager compensation for Legislators has long been a barrier to more business owners, especially small business owners, choosing to run for the Legislature. We believe that this bill will make the opportunity to run and serve in the Legislature available to a more diverse pool of Oregon residents with a wider range of life and professional experiences, and expertise. Small business owners have long been underrepresented in the legislature, and SB 1556 will help address this.

For these reasons we urge you to support SB 1566. Thank you for your consideration.

Jon Isaacs (*he/him*)

Vice President, Government Affairs

PORTLAND BUSINESS ALLIANCE

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