

Submitter: Chandler Wade

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Economic Development and Small Business

Measure: HB2505

Dear Chair Bynum and Members of the House Committee On Economic Development and Small Business,

To put it simply, this measure would kill our family farm. Adding more taxes to an industry reeling from a large decline in sales, an increase in home cultivation during COVID and a thriving illicit market, would certainly further consolidate our industry. The effect would be much like COVID, your favorite restaurants close, while the TGI Fridays and Taco Bell come in and lease for pennies on the dollar because their inferior, from-powder food and low wages have enough margin to survive in any market. You have a choice what this industry looks like, and what Oregon looks like to the rest of the country. My father (from Washington) warned me about doing business in Oregon when I told him how well legalization in Oregon was designed to function, because he said the state of Oregon will just keep coming back to tax you more and more to fix whatever problems they have outside your industry. I told him he was wrong and am a proud Oregonian. I am proud of the way our legalization was more of a free market, accessible to the average family farm instead of a non-refundable \$250k application fee and a tiny cap on licenses like the east coast. I am proud that we resist the regressive sales tax that disproportionately impacts lower income consumers. Let's not turn our cannabis industry into a pseudo legalization where only Idaho tourists are willing to pay our 30% taxes. Thank you so much for your careful consideration and all you do collectively to shape Oregon's economy. My family and the staff's families thank you.