

Associated Oregon Loggers, Inc.

PO Box 12339 • Salem, Oregon 97309-0339 • (503) 364-1330 • Fax (503) 364-0836

February 15, 2023

The Honorable Mark Meek, Chair Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue Oregon State Capitol Salem, OR 97301

Subject: SB 127 - SUPPORT

Chair Meek, Vice Chair Boquist and Committee Members:

For the record, my name is Amanda Sullivan-Astor. I am here on behalf of the Associated Oregon Loggers as their forest policy manager. AOL is the statewide trade association and voice of nearly 1000 small forest business and 23,000 Oregonians who need your help to remain viable in an ever more costly economy. We represent Oregon's firefighters, loggers, restoration contractors, reforestation companies and other forest operators and **we want to offer our support for SB 127**.

Forest operators are critical to achieve Oregon's climate and wildfire reduction goals.

At present, the corporate activity tax does unreasonable harm on our small business members who have had to pay taxes on gross revenues when total expenditures exceeded those revenues. By increasing the exempt amount and filling threshold for the corporate activity tax, this critical workforce would be able to retain up to \$20,000 in essential revenues to be able to remain in business.

Fixed costs and expenditures for equipment loans, insurance, maintenance and more cannot fluctuate with the global commodity market that is timber so our members' profit margins are often thin. Reducing the unjust and dissimilatory corporate activity tax for small capitol intensive business like those AOL represents would be significant to our success and ability to retain critical infrastructure across frontline environmental justice communities.

We hope you consider the benefit this bill could have on those underserved communities our members work in and around to help bolster rural economic development and stability.

Please support SB 127 with a **DO PASS** vote.

Graciously,

Amanda Sullivan-Astor

AOL, Forest Policy Manager Office: 503.364.1330

Email: aastor@oregonloggers.org

Kevin Campbell

Victory Group, Contract Lobbyist

Cell: 503.580.9485

Email: kevin@victorygrp.com