

Submitter: Lyle Watkins

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Business and Labor

Measure: HB2920

Good morning, hello, my name is Lyle Watkins. I am a dual citizen of the United States and Chile. I will testify before you today on How incredibly scared If this bill were to pass. having seen firsthand how a similar bill impacted almost all my Washington Clients and the desperation and frustration that situation caused, not to mention the emotional and mental stress that brought to my staff and myself. And that's only about 16% of my clients, and around 80% be in Oregon. About 75% of my clients are Latinx, or of Hispanic descent, my staff is entirely Latinx and it's because we're a strong pillar in our community that focuses on giving sound advice on insurance and how to find affordable prices.

Perfect example is Felicita Magallanes, when a similar bill took place in Washington, We struggled to figure out a solution, and had to eventually cancel her personal auto policy. We had spent five years to build affordable rate, but fortunate we were able to ensure her commercial auto since we had the business insured, and it seems all that time and effort was lost. She's someone that's worked really hard on doing things the right way. When I met her, she was working at McDonald's putting two kids through college, three years ago, she started her own cleaning business, and yesterday she closed on her first home. if she would have paid double on insurance on her personal auto, this might have impacted her ability to save money to purchase her first home. if this bill passes in Oregon, all the hard work I've been working for the past 7 years will be lost.

There's always a path to affordability, and it always starts with good behavior on all levels. We are a multicultural agency, with so many ethnic clients and we cater to our communities, and they depend on us. this bill will burden greatly a lot of people financially, and likely shut down businesses similar to mine, hurting more jobs to an already struggling economy. I only see one type a loser if this bill passes and it's blue-collar and people of color.