

Submitter: Scott Hamlin  
On Behalf Of: Looptworks  
Committee: Joint Committee On Semiconductors  
Measure: SB5

Hello,

My name is Scott Hamlin. I am a 3rd generation, native Oregonian, and the Founder and CEO of Looptworks, a 14 year old Portland, Oregon B Corporation that is a leader in the Circular Economy for Textiles. Later this year, Looptworks will be opening Phase 1 of a 3 phase build out of the first Circular Textile Facility in the United States and quite possibly the world. At capacity, this facility will employ over 225 people with great paying jobs in AI, Robotics, Material Science, Engineering and advanced machinery operations. Looptworks will be conducting significant research and development in this facility and under the proposed Measure SB-5, we would not qualify for R&D credits, despite being considered a Climate Tech company and a supporting member of the State's economic development cluster, Athletic and Outdoor.

The business climate in Oregon has become difficult, even for businesses like Looptworks that have been purposely designed to focus on positive environmental and social impact, along with profits, and not just profits. We have found that the tax structures and lack of incentives in the State difficult to justify not only keeping our business in the State, but also expanding here as well. The R&D tax credit is one incentive that we were counting on in order to allow us to stay in Oregon. If that is only available to recipients of the Chips act, that credit will make it very difficult for us to grow and expand our business here. Please consider adding the growing industries of Climate Tech and Manufacturing to these R&D credits, if not opening them to all industries as they truly help create an economic growth driver for the State of Oregon.

Thank you,

Scott Hamlin  
Looptworks