

Submitter: Michelle McCormick  
On Behalf Of: Myself and My Company  
Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation  
Funding  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: LC 2

Government should never be allowed to impose taxes on the public without a vote of the constituents. Least you forget, It is our money you are spending and you are an employee of ours. Just because you cannot make the case to convince the public that you need more money to spend does not give you the right to just take it from us.

Nine years ago when President Trump lowered corporate taxes and asked business owners to pay it forward by passing it on to their employees - we did that. What did the Oregon democrats do? They raised taxes on businesses without a public vote. When I called them on it they said, and I quote, "Don't worry you'll only be paying the same amount as if Trump never gave you a tax break."!!

And what's with the CAT tax slush fund? This tax was also imposed without a vote of the people. What's worse is, it is a tax imposed on GROSS sales for the pleasure of doing business in Oregon. As if they are doing businesses any favors. It was enacted before the rules were even in place. What did they do? They had town halls and zoom meetings to supposedly answer questions. Instead they took those questions and found ways to eliminate any loop holes (for those without special interest lobby groups, that is). When I called and said there doesn't seem to be a line for me to deduct the CAT tax I've paid to other businesses, I was told and again I quote "That is because we don't even know if the business you paid it to will have to file and pay CAT tax."!! In essence anyone can collect the CAT tax from you and not be required to forfeit it over to the government slush fund. So now when the schools come to ask us to support them - I have to say I paid the money I would have used to support you to the Oregon Government - Sorry. We use to be one of the biggest supporters of the schools in the counties we serve.

Oh, and what ever happened to free trade. The idea that if a business wasn't doing the right thing they wouldn't be able to retain quality employees? There by staing their reputation and being unable to attract consumers. How's the Paid Family Leave Act working out for you? Soon you'll be raising that I suppose. We have employees absolutely taking unnecessary advantage of this and we are left holding the bag. Don't try to tell me about your programs for employers to temporarily replace these workers. There is no way we can hire and train people with time left to take advantage of any of that training because I have to let them go the minute 12 weeks is up and that employee wants to come back. Oh and also to take advantage of the "rebate" program the business has to make commitments which exceed the cost of the rebate.

Now you want to raise payroll taxes? Where does this government think the businesses are getting all this money from??? What ever happened to trying to attract new business to Oregon by doing the right thing? What is your master plan? I am positive I am not the only one that would love to know.