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On Behalf Of: BradPetersForOregon.com
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1507

Chair and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify. I strongly oppose this bill because it moves Oregon in the wrong direction at exactly the wrong time. Families across our state are already struggling with housing costs, groceries, childcare, and fuel. Layering a new statewide sales tax on everyday purchases, while maintaining high income-tax rates, effectively hard wires a higher cost of living into law. At the same time, the bill raises and complicates taxes on employers — including mandatory minimum taxes that apply even when a business isn't profitable. That approach doesn't just target large corporations; it hits startups, seasonal businesses, and thin-margin local employers who create jobs in our communities. When their costs rise, those costs show up in higher prices, fewer hours, slower hiring, or jobs that never get created at all.

Just as concerning is the long-term structure this bill creates. It ties a broad new consumption tax to ongoing government spending commitments, building a system where the state becomes increasingly dependent on taxing basic economic activity to sustain program growth. That's not reform — it's a permanent expansion of government financed by a permanent squeeze on working people and job creators. Oregon's challenge is not a lack of ways to tax; it's the need for disciplined spending, regulatory clarity, and an environment where families can keep more of what they earn and businesses can invest with confidence. This bill moves us further from those goals, and for the sake of Oregon's economic future and the financial stability of our families.

I urge you not to advance it.

Gubernatorial Candidate