

Submitter: John Miller
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Commerce and General Government
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1593

I write in support of SB1593. I have been a small business owner and operator in Oregon for the past 45 years in the fitness industry. In that time I have heard countless legislators address various business groups I am a part of. I listened to those legislators tell me how important small business is to Oregon. I was told small business was the source of most employment, the source of job growth, the source of tax revenue, the source of innovation, and the backbone of a strong economy and vibrant communities. But in those 45 years, those same legislators have only done things to make it harder to succeed in small business. They have raised taxes, added fees, made utilities and every other product or service I depend on more expensive, made it harder to employ people, made it easier to get sued, and artificially increased the cost of labor.

I hear now that word has reached the Governor that Oregon has a reputation as a poor place to do business. I can personally attest to that fact. In response she is setting up a Prosperity Committee to address this problem. You can understand my skepticism, yet I hold out hope that you will pass SB1593 out of committee. Doing so would be one small step to demonstrate that all of those lofty descriptors of the value of small business had some measure of sincerity. That small business is indeed valued by our state government.

Passing SB 1593 should be an easy "yes".