

Submitter: Caleb Rice
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Hello,

I'm writing to express my opposition to HB 4134.

As an owner of a family-owned Oregon company, I work closely with business owners all over the state across hospitality, retail, construction, automotive, professional services, and more. Because we're involved in their payment systems, I often get a firsthand look at how tight profit margins are. Sadly, over the last few years, I have watched those margins plummet substantially, and many businesses have even gone under. That means families losing jobs and communities losing valuable services. This hits home to me because these are real people that I have known personally.

Right now, businesses are already dealing with price hikes in labor, supplies, insurance, and many other expenses. Even what may seem like a modest tax increase would create ripple effects that negatively impact not only our hospitality and tourism industries, but many others that are closely connected.

Most of the companies I serve are small to mid-sized, locally owned businesses. They employ local families and reinvest their profits right here in Oregon. Policies that increase their cost burden — even indirectly — make it harder for them to stay competitive and continue growing.

We need to look for solutions that support statewide priorities without placing additional strain on Oregon businesses. This bill feels out of touch with the realities of everyday life as an Oregon business owner.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Caleb Rice