

Testimony on HB 2535 A-Engrossed Larry Harvey for Oregon Staffing Association

Good afternoon Chairman Beyer and Members of the Committee. My name is Larry Harvey and I am here today on behalf of the Oregon Staffing Association. As you can infer from the name of our organization, our members have a vested interest in the issue and the implications of HB 2535A. It has been our good fortune to have worked closely with Rep. Holvey in the House on this bill and we certainly understand the problem that needs to be addressed. We also appreciate all the cooperation we've received from Rep. Holvey and want to make certain he is recognized for his work.

As the record of our testimony in the House Committee on Business and Labor reflects, we testified that the OSA was offering conditional support for HB 2535 based upon the opportunity to make a minor modification to the bill when it received a hearing in the Senate. The Committee record will substantiate that conditional support as offered in a public hearing and work session. The minor modification the OSA is seeking can be found in the (-4) amendments that I have provided to you.

The (-4) amendments do not destroy the intent or function of this proposed legislation and also leave in place the proposed regulatory matters under consideration. The amendments I have presented to you reflect a change in the task of record keeping and documentation that is currently required by the proposed legislation. It simplifies the process, eliminates the need for additional state personnel to monitor all the paperwork that will be generated and still provides for regulatory authority and punitive action should any employer found to be non-compliant with this proposed law. Our current position is that is all that is needed to reduce, if not eliminate, the problems that have prompted the introduction of this bill.

The OSA appreciates the opportunity to present our proposed changes to HB 2535. We want to eliminate the problem this legislation is intended to address in the best interest of the workers, the State of Oregon and our individual businesses. However, without the (-4) amendments, we are not prepared to support the legislation any longer at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to share with you today and I'd be happy to answer any questions you might have.