

Testimony of David Childers

RE: HB2752

February 11, 2015

Chairman, members of the committee it is my pleasure to address you today. For the record, my name is David Childers. I am a resident of Lake Oswego, Oregon and I am here representing the Technology Association of Oregon, where I serve as Chair Emeritus. I also serve as an ETIC Council member. Ernst and Young, when I was twice nominated for their Entrepreneur of the Year Award, called me a "serial entrepreneur." During my career I have served as a CEO for 22 years, founding two successful Oregon software-as-a-service (SaaS) start-ups, and mentoring dozens of CEOs and emerging companies around the State. I am also an angel investor in several Oregon companies.

I am here before you today in support of HB2752, the revision of the Oregon Tax Credit. During my career I have been involved with the birth and growth of a number of software-based companies in Oregon. In my opinion, the historic R&D Tax Credit has been ineffective against its goals. My experience with other companies, both raising capital and developing software, where their state's tax credit benefit was a tangible asset and not a limiting NOL proved to provide a real incentive.

We live in a very competitive environment for business investment. Several years ago the attraction of the Pacific Northwest was often enough to lure and maintain companies in the region. However, those days are past and we need to provide every opportunity possible to ensure we have a viable, cost effective and beautiful place to attract new jobs and revenue to the State.

Although the establishment of the HB2752 will not create a unique R&D Tax Credit opportunity it does level the playing field with a number of states who are very aggressively seeking the creation of new businesses and relocations.

I encourage you to support HB2752.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today. I would be happy to answer any questions.



David Childers

503-816-2362 | david@childers.com