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MEMORANDUM

DATE:

March 3, 2017

TO:

Chair Taylor & Members of the Senate Workforce Committee

FROM:

Bill Smith

SUBJECT:

SB 828

If SB 828 is enacted it will have a major impact on the quality of life for Oregonians.

As an example, consider the Bill's impact on restaurants in the Old Mill District in Bend. The Old Mill has nine establishments with outdoor seating for their patrons. Those establishments help set the tone tourists enjoy. The Old Mill District would not exist without tourists. Tourists come for the total experience.

Introduce shoulder season weather, both Spring and Fall. Who can predict weather 14 days in advance? Who can predict weather 24 hours in advance with certainty? The result of SB 828 is that shoulder season outdoor seating, which is already marginal for profit, will disappear.

Losing outdoor seating will lessen the experience of our tourists most of whom are from Oregon. The entire Bend economy that benefits from tourism is lessened. Fewer tourists; fewer jobs; sub optimal experiences for all. The wait staff that I know appreciates having work on sunny days. They understand all days are not sunny. Both residents and tourists enjoy sitting outside in the sun.

Oregon is better than the mandates of SP 828. Please oppose SB 828.