

Dear Chair Barker,

Requiring our businesses to pay employees wages, even at 50%, for 32 weeks of paid leave would be an albatross around most business owner's proverbial necks. Many business owners still have not hired employees back to match pre-recessionary levels; they are making do with less in anticipation of a slowing economy. Requiring that an employer pay an employee while they are on leave for 32 weeks is an unrealistic costly mandate that is entirely unnecessary. The effects on businesses operating under the newly enacted paid sick leave, the increase in minimum wages and the changes in tax laws is still unknown. Adding more expenses to employers when they are not able to grow revenue to offset those expenses is poor oversight on the legislatures part. I strongly recommend that you vote no on HB 3031 and support our Oregon businesses.

Sincerely,

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