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May 4, 2021

Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chairs Pham and Reschke,

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) urges your support for HB 2440, which would extend the sunset for the Working Family Household and Dependent Care Credit.

EMO is a statewide association of over 150 Christian denominations, congregations, ecumenical organizations and interfaith partners working together to improve the lives of Oregonians, including through direct service programs. These programs feed the hungry, house those in need, support those living with HIV and AIDS, protect survivors of domestic violence, resettle refugees and provide opportunity to tens of thousands every year.

With our core values and these community members in mind, EMO supports HB 2440.

Many of those who would benefit under HB 2440 are Oregon's essential workers, including those working in agriculture, food processing, retail, and construction sectors. We have been reminded this past year that child care is a crucial community service that enables parents to work and kids to learn. Now, during this pandemic and facing an economic recovery, is not the time to increase the cost of child care for working families.

HB 2440 furthers our state's collective work to create a government that is more fully responsive to human needs and aspirations. We are called to act in solidarity with those on the margins, to establish social and economic systems that encourage, enable and empower all people.

We urge you to pass HB 2440 to help ensure Oregonians have an opportunity to thrive.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Britt Conroy
Public Policy Director
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon