

# Botten's EQUIPMENT & EVENT RENTALS

2800 NE Lafayette Ave  
McMinnville, OR 97128

To Whom It may Concern;

May 25, 2021

I have a small business in McMinnville that's been hard hit by the pandemic shut downs. Our event segment of the business was dead in the water as we approached our biggest year. Our business refunded close to the amount we actually ended up receiving for PPP money. The PPP money was able to keep our employees afloat and their health insurance paid. To now learn that this lifeline will now be taxed is a gross overreach of power. We already lost the revenue that was coming in, the stimulus money sent to my employees is taxed and now the lifeline to pay them is too. SB137 is appalling and needs to be shut down.

The state took the CAT tax despite small businesses pleading to postpone it, right when we were shut down, and the taxes just kept coming. There is a point that the small businesses and middle class families that this state keeps taking from will not have anything left to take. We are struggling to pay the increased minimum wages, we are struggling to purchase our equipment with increased fees like the CAT tax, we are struggling to pay the increased privilege tax on our trailers, we are struggling to keep afloat.

It is appalling that these ideas to keep taxing our small businesses is still an idea that seems legitimate. Mind you, all of this in our business is happening while our first grader is being educated online in our office. We, as a community, feel like a doormat. We as a community feel Salem does not have our best interest in front of their own motives. SB 137 is another testament to that and should be recalled.

Shannon Botten  
President

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