



**Stayton Sublimity Chamber of Commerce**

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February 8, 2023

Dear House Committee on Revenue,

*Stayton Sublimity Chamber of Commerce* represents multiple communities in Marion & Linn Counties including Stayton, Sublimity, Scio, Aumsville, Turner, Scio and the Santiam Canyon.

Nearly 65% of our business members are small businesses with less than 5 employees, 89% of our businesses are small businesses with less than 25 employees, yet due to the parameters of the CAT TAX based on gross revenue (not net returns), many of those same businesses are subject to the current CAT TAX.

Businesses such as restaurants who exceed 1 million in gross receipts, yet only have a 3-7% profit margin. Many of these businesses are already struggling due to the implications of Covid, increase in mandatory minimum wage and employer required benefits. This CAT TAX may indeed be the straw that breaks the camels back for many of our small businesses throughout the state. Businesses that make up an unprecedented 85% of Oregon businesses state-wide.

Healthy businesses support strong, thriving communities. Without taking measures to prevent undue tax burdens on our small business, those business will eventually cease to exist or relocate to other, more business-friendly states, leaving our communities devastated in the process.

The Stayton Sublimity Chamber supports HB 2433, and we ask that you do the same



Respectfully,

Carméle Bielenberg,  
CEO, Stayton Sublimity Chamber of Commerce  
Liaison, Stayton Sublimity Chamber GAC  
Board Member, Oregon State Chamber of Commerce