

### Background

The Department of Revenue collects both tax and non-tax debt owed to the state. Debts owed to other state agencies are assigned to Revenue for collections. Garnishments are one tool that Revenue utilizes to collect debt owed to the state.

Revenue issues two types of garnishments—one for tax debt and another for non-tax debt.

Garnishments for non-tax debt are subject to a minimum wage exemption which aims to ensure that individuals whose wages have been garnished, take home at least a certain amount of wages.

Garnishments for tax debt are not subject to the minimum wage exemption, but state law limits the amount that can be garnished to 25% of take-home wages.

### Expected Amendments

Revenue's [written testimony](#) submitted for the record to the Senate Committee on Labor and Business on February 7, 2024, indicated that the department expected three amendments. The -2 addresses the three concerns related to: start date for new minimum wage exemption amounts; minimum wage exemption amounts; and the effective and operational date.

The Department of Revenue would like to thank Senator Gorsek and his staff, Matt Swanson with SEIU, and Sybill Hebb with the Oregon Law Center, and Chris Coughlin with Oregon Consumer Justice, and other partners, for the opportunity to collaborate and provide input.

### Agency Contact

Marjorie Taylor, Legislative Director, [marjorie.taylor@dor.oregon.gov](mailto:marjorie.taylor@dor.oregon.gov) (503) 476-7644

Steven Ito, Collection Division Policy Coordinator, [steven.ito@dor.oregon.gov](mailto:steven.ito@dor.oregon.gov) (503) 707-1521