



Monday, Feb. 10, 2025

TO: Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

FR: Derek Sangston, Oregon Business & Industry

RE: Support for SB 300

Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary. For the record, I am Derek Sangston, policy director and council for Oregon Business & Industry (OBI).

OBI is a statewide association representing businesses from a wide variety of industries and from each of Oregon's 36 counties. In addition to being the statewide chamber of commerce, OBI is the state affiliate for the National Association of Manufacturers and the National Retail Federation. Our 1,600 member companies, more than 80% of which are small businesses, employ more than 250,000 Oregonians. Oregon's private sector businesses help drive a healthy, prosperous economy for the benefit of everyone.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 300. SB 300, with the dash-2 amendment, represents a compromise fix to an issue caused by the passage of HB 2527 during the 2021 session. That bill provided the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) the ability to establish rules to better regulate private security entities. Unfortunately, its provisions have been applied to include grocers, retailers, restaurants, schools, hospitals, general contractors, and other businesses that provide their own private security.

The reason HB 2527 has been interpreted to be overinclusive is the bill mirrored a previous concept aimed at janitorial providers and wage theft. SB 300 fixes the issue by removing entities who have in-house security employees from the licensure requirement and narrows the law to contract or for-hire security firms.

SB 300 would remove an unnecessary and redundant regulatory scheme for many of Oregon's businesses. For my members, these businesses include your local hardware stores, your local department stores, and many contractors throughout Oregon. When they employ in-house security professionals, these businesses ensure professional training and compliance. They also comply with other state and federal regulations to ensure the private security professionals they employ get paid what they are owed for their work and receive the benefit of all available workplace protections. In other words, these are not the fly-by-night shops for which HB 2527 was intended to regulate.

Thank you for your consideration. I respectfully request this committee to pass this compromise bill.

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