

Submitter: Mary Hodge

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB490

I am an owner of a small business based in Portland. Our business and others across Oregon have continued to weather challenges like workforce shortages, massive inflation, rampant crime, legal drug use, vandalism, fear for the safety of our 13 employees and many subcontractors that work across the Portland metro area, and economic uncertainty. Oregon's Main Street business community has suffered at the hands of voters who did not understand the impact of the bill they voted to pass. Every time I talk with a customer, friend, or neighbor, they are shocked that businesses pay tax on revenue, not net income, and that we pay the tax whether we make a profit or not. Increasing the exemption from the Corporate Activity Tax (CAT) for small businesses from \$1 million to \$5 million will provide much needed relief in a very stressful, costly, and uncertain business climate. This timely legislation would allow us to continue to invest in our business, hire another person, and purchase new equipment, all supporting other economic activity in our state. If enacted, this bill would have a direct impact on the majority of small businesses in the state while not having a significant impact on the revenue generated from the tax since most revenue comes from large corporations.