

March 11, 2025

TO: Members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

FR: Derek Sangston, Oregon Business & Industry

RE: Opposition to HB 3533

Chair Sosa, Vice-Chair Osborne, Vice-Chair Chaichi, members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection. For the record, I am Derek Sangston, policy director and counsel 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 opposition to HB 3533. While the intent behind the bill may be to increase transparency and consumer protection, HB 3533 introduces a broad change that adds to a patchwork of regulations that not only vary from state to state. The results of which would disproportionately impact small businesses and startups.

While two states – Minnesota and California – have passed so-called fee transparency bills that are similar to HB 3533, the bills passed by those states each included commonsense provisions that acknowledge there are certain fees or charges no retailer can accurately disclose prior to the final sale of a good or service. Specifically, both states exempt any tax imposed by the government and reasonable shipping charges from the requirements of the bill. Minnesota's law additionally exempts retailers from disclosing charges the customer could easily avoid. In each circumstance, those states focus their requirements on the fees that are known by businesses at the time of the transaction. By including more ambiguous fees and charges in its requirements, HB 3385 significantly adds to the burden imposed on businesses providing goods and services to Oregonians.

For those reasons, I respectfully ask this committee to reject HB 3533. Thank you for your consideration.

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