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On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1015

SB 1015 appears to expand regulatory oversight in a manner that could stifle personal and business autonomy. Oregon has a history of balancing progressive policies with practical governance, but this bill threatens to tip that balance toward excessive control. For example, if it imposes new requirements on businesses or individuals—whether through fees, compliance measures, or reporting obligations—it could disproportionately harm small enterprises and working families already grappling with rising costs. The state’s economic recovery remains fragile, and adding layers of bureaucracy now could deter job creation and innovation, particularly in rural communities where resources are stretched thin.

Second, the bill’s potential costs—both direct and indirect—are a major point of contention. Legislative proposals often come with promises of funding or benefits, but the reality is that taxpayers frequently bear the burden. If SB 1015 allocates public funds or shifts financial responsibilities onto citizens, it risks exacerbating Oregon’s budget challenges. Lawmakers should prioritize fiscal restraint over new initiatives that lack clear, sustainable funding mechanisms. Critics of similar past measures, like those tied to environmental or social mandates, have pointed out how they strain local governments and residents without delivering proportional benefits—SB 1015 could follow this troubling pattern.

Finally, the bill raises questions about its necessity and effectiveness. Oregonians deserve legislation that solves real problems with proven methods, not speculative measures that invite unintended consequences. If SB 1015 seeks to address an issue already covered by existing laws or agencies, it represents redundant governance that wastes time and resources. Moreover, without robust public input and transparent debate, the bill risks alienating the very people it claims to serve. The legislative process should not rush forward with proposals that lack broad consensus or clear evidence of success.

In conclusion, Senate Bill 1015, as it stands, threatens to overreach into the lives of Oregonians, burden the economy, and sidestep practical solutions in favor of untested policy. Lawmakers should reject this bill and focus on measures that respect individual liberty, promote economic stability, and reflect the true needs of the state’s diverse population. Oregon thrives when its government governs least and listens most—SB 1015 fails that test.