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May 1, 2025

Dear Chair Nathanson and members of the House Revenue Committee,

The Oregon State Chamber of Commerce (OSCC) **opposes HB 3940-A with the -9 amendment**, which would add yet another payroll tax burden to Oregon workers.

The OSCC represents 89 chambers of commerce statewide. These chambers represent local business communities from every corner of the state who are the backbone of their local communities and provide the goods, services, jobs, taxes and philanthropy that fuel our economy.

OSCC also engages on legislation that affects our employees.

The -9 amendment to HB 3940-A proposes a 0.1% payroll tax (ie income tax) increase for the purpose of funding state wildfire response and prevention.

Quite simply, working Oregonians are already overtaxed. In addition to paying among the highest personal income tax rates in the country (8.75%), Oregon workers also pay an additional 0.6% on wages for the Paid Leave Oregon program, and an additional 0.1% for statewide transit funding.

The 2025 transportation funding proposal contemplates raising the transit tax to 0.18% just eight years after initial passage.

The -9 amendment would add yet another permanent special payroll tax of 0.1%. This tax will be a toehold and will no doubt be increased over time.

Our workforce cannot continue to be taxed every time there's a new program initiative.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "JL Wilson".

JL Wilson  
Legislative Counsel for OSCC