

Submitter: Eric Vale

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1510

I am a federally licensed Enrolled Agent who represents just a couple Oregon taxpayers. I am writing to ask for your support of the Enrolled Agent Parity Proposal in the -2 amendment to SB 1510 currently before the Legislature.

Oregon is the only state that requires federally licensed enrolled agents to pass a separate state exam. This makes Oregon a national outlier and creates unnecessary barriers that restrict taxpayer access to qualified, affordable tax representation. Please remember that all Enrolled Agents (EAs) have to pass an exam administered by the IRS to get our EA credential, demonstrating proficiency in income tax matters, AND we have to keep that proficiency by getting at least 24 hours of continuing education annually.

This proposal does not eliminate oversight; it should preserve consumer protection, accountability, and transparency, without duplicating federal licensure. The proposal also does not expand the scope of practice for enrolled agents; it simply aligns Oregon law with the federal authority EAs already hold and that every other state recognizes.

Current law discourages enrolled agents from practicing in Oregon, which reduces access for Oregon taxpayers to specialized tax help.

I only have 2 OR clients at this time, both of whom moved to Oregon from another state. I am not actively marketing to OR taxpayers, so I am NOT competition for Oregon-based tax preparers.

I respectfully urge your support of this common-sense proposal to improve taxpayer access for Oregon taxpayers while maintaining appropriate oversight.

Sincerely,

Eric Vale, EA, 4180 Treat Boulevard, Suite C, Concord, CA 94518 eric@valex-tax.com