

Submitter: Monica Scroup
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1510

A supportive view of this bill would emphasize fairness, efficiency, and recognition of established professional standards.

This legislation appropriately acknowledges the rigorous federal credential held by ****Enrolled Agents (EAs)****. Licensed by the Internal Revenue Service, Enrolled Agents must pass the comprehensive Special Enrollment Examination (or qualify through extensive IRS experience), undergo background checks, and complete ongoing continuing education to maintain active status. Because this credential is national in scope and already highly regulated, requiring them to take a separate Oregon exam creates unnecessary duplication rather than enhancing consumer protection.

By exempting Enrolled Agents from the Oregon exam requirement, the bill reduces regulatory redundancy. Professionals who have already demonstrated competency at the federal level should not be burdened with additional testing that largely overlaps with knowledge they have already proven. This streamlines compliance while maintaining high standards of expertise.

The exemption from submitting separate Continuing Education documentation to the state is also reasonable. EAs are already required to complete federally mandated CE each year to retain their license. Allowing federal CE requirements to satisfy state expectations simplifies oversight and reduces administrative costs—both for practitioners and regulators—without lowering educational standards.

Finally, permitting Enrolled Agents to hire staff without requiring those individuals to obtain separate licensure or registration under state law enhances operational flexibility. Like attorneys or CPAs who supervise employees, EAs remain responsible for the work performed under their supervision. This model preserves accountability at the professional level while allowing firms to train and manage staff efficiently. It also lowers barriers to entry for support roles, creating workforce opportunities and helping small firms expand their services.

Overall, the bill recognizes existing federal oversight, eliminates redundant regulation, reduces compliance burdens, and supports small business growth—while still holding Enrolled Agents accountable under established federal standards.