

Submitter: Mikel Farley
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1510

My name is Mikel Farley. I have been an Enrolled Agent and Licensed Tax Consultant in the state of Oregon since 2021. I am writing in support of SB 1510.

Sections 13-18 regarding the treatment of "Enrolled agent" status and related licensure requirements; Requiring Enrolled Agents to maintain licensure with OBTP will ensure OBTP retains the ability to address problems caused by individual preparers or their staff in the same manner as CPA's. Allowing Enrolled Agent's to maintain unlicensed staff will also bring them in line with the expectations and freedoms allowed to both in-state and out-of-state CPA's.

Opposition to SB 1510 has expressed concern with accuracy regarding Oregon tax laws and procedure, citing evidences provided by the Government Accountability Office, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, and the National Taxpayer Advocate. Errors, inaccuracy, and fraudulently filed returns are serious problem and should be addressed. But this problem exists already and will not be impacted significantly by allowing Enrolled Agents that already maintain a higher CPE requirement than LTC's and LTP's to maintain unlicensed staff. CPA's without and without Oregon are already filing returns with the aid of unlicensed staff. Allowing Enrolled Agent's the same treatment will bring parity in treatment and privileges for Federally recognized tax preparers in the same fashion as foreign CPA reciprocity already does.

I support the intention and goals of SB 1510 in its current state.

Sincerely,
Mikel Farley, 00145558-EA, 1922612-C