

Dear Chair Nathanson, Vice Chair Reschke, and Members of the Committee

I am Robert Janes, EA, Enrolled Agent practicing in California and a member of National Association of Enrolled Agents. I write to respectfully urge your support for SB 1510-A (SB 1510 as amended by the Senate).

Thank you for considering exempting Enrolled Agents from additional regulations in Oregon. I fully support doing so.

Enrolled Agents have passed a rigorous test administered by IRS. We are subject to disciplinary actions by the US Dept of the Treasury.

No other state requires Enrolled Agents to certify their expertise a second time. If every state did so, Enrolled Agents would have to spend hours studying laws they might never use. In order to make up for that unproductive time, we would need to charge higher fees for any tax return that included that state's return. That result is anti-consumer.

As most Enrolled Agents in my state already have busy practices, they don't plan to advertise for Oregon clients and thus will not be competing with tax professionals who live in Oregon.

If my client invests in a property in Oregon or moves from my state to Oregon, that person typically asks me to continue preparing their tax returns. If I was unable to assist these clients, they would lose the benefit of my understanding of how to accurately report their income, deductions and credits. They would have to find another professional in a shrinking pool of preparers. That result is anti-consumer.

For the reasons of increased accuracy for the state and taxpayers and lower cost and accessibility for the taxpayers, a vote for SB 1510 would be supporting Oregon taxpayers by exempting Enrolled Agents from certifying their expertise a second time.

Thank you for your time and your service.

Sincerely,

Robert Janes, EA