

From: Mark Hicks
To: [LRO](#)
Subject: Oppose Surprise Tax Increase in LC 2
Date: Thursday, August 6, 2020 6:40:07 PM

Dear Chair Nathanson,

The last thing any of use need is more taxes or for existing tax incentives to evaporate. Small business has already suffered a profound impact from closures and regulations that will continue to create economic hardship for the foreseeable future..

The COVID-19 crisis has impacted my business enormously. My sales are down because of the government-ordered shut down and my customers have and continue to be impacted as well. I understand why we did that, but the truth is that I have struggled to keep staff and recover from the shut down. Disconnecting from the federal CARES Act will only make it worse for my family, my business, and my remaining employees.

Congress passed the bipartisan CARES Act to help struggling businesses, those who adhered to shut down orders or saw a steep decline in sales. This partisan move by the Oregon Legislature isn't right, and it will make it harder for businesses to put people back to work.

Like many businesses, my biggest issue right now is liquidity, and disconnecting from the CARES Act harms businesses like mine who are just trying to make ends meet. What I need right now is help from leaders like you. I can't believe you are considering something like the CARES Act disconnect in LC 2, which will cost me cash when I need it most.

Please support local businesses, and maintain the integrity of the federal CARES Act relief in Oregon. My ability to recover from this pandemic depends on support from the state legislature, and LC 2 will only make it harder to come back from this crisis.

Sincerely,

Mark Hicks
591 36th Ave NW
Salem, OR 97304
mark.hicks@hickstech.com