

From: [Timothy Brunner](#)
To: [LRO](#)
Subject: Oppose Surprise Tax Increase in LC 2
Date: Friday, August 7, 2020 11:10:07 AM

Dear Chair Nathanson,

I own a small business in East Portland. I have been wrought with vandalism, homeless and recently attacks on my property by rioters. This has cost be greatly with employees feeling unsafe, added costs to me to fix my property, etc. So now in the midst of a pandemic, where I have seen revenue fall over 20%, you decide to back door another tax. You are relentless. This must stop. You need to focus on how to keep small businesses open so we can employee people and provide for our families. Plus, I think you tend to forget that we are the ones paying the taxes which fund your priorities. Don't forget without us (small business), you would not exist.

The COVID-19 crisis has impacted my business enormously. My sales are down because of the government-ordered shut down. 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 and my business.

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,

Timothy Brunner
16805 NE Hancock Ct
Portland, OR 97230
timb@axisdesigngroup.com