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SENATE REPUBLICAN OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 23, 2018

Tayleranne Gillespie Communications Director 541-554-6631

Senate Democrats Pass Unfair Tax Hike on Oregon's Small Businesses

SALEM, Ore. - Today, by passing <u>Senate Bill 1528</u>-a whopping \$1.3 billion small business tax hike-Oregon Senate Democrats sent a strong message to Oregon small businesses: Senate Democrats side with big corporations over small family-owned businesses.

"Under the Democrat's plan, big national corporations make out like bandits, while local small businesses get punished with a big tax increase," said Senator Herman Baertschiger (R-Grants Pass). "We should not be punishing mom and pop shops, start-ups, and young entrepreneurs who are the backbone of Oregon's economy. It is simply unfair."

According to the nonpartisan Legislative Revenue Office, SB 1528 will raise taxes on Oregon small businesses by nearly \$200 million in 2018, and by \$1.3 billion over the next 6 years. The measure eliminates the 20% deduction for small pass-through businesses, including LLCs, Partnerships, and Sole Proprietorships, by disconnecting Oregon from the federal tax code.

"Democrats claim that SB 1528 will merely prevent business from "double dipping," said Senator Brian Boquist (R-Dallas). "This is wrong. The state pass-through program only applies to 22,000

Oregon businesses, but SB 1528 will raise taxes on over 340,000 Oregon businesses. This is unfair, irresponsible, and possibly unconstitutional."

"Oregon's revenue forecast is bright, there is absolutely no budgetary reason to increase taxes. None at all," said Senator Jackie Winters (R-Salem). "Senate Republicans believe that hardworking small business owners should get to keep more of what they earn, so that they can do what they do best - create jobs. Today's vote shows who is actually fighting for small business."

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