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April 16, 2019

The Honorable Arnie Roblan, Senator, Committee Co-Chair
The Honorable Barbara Smith Warner, Representative, Committee Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Student Success
900 Court Street, NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 3427

Dear Co-Chair Roblan, Co-Chair Smith Warner and Members of the Committee,

The Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce represents the businesses of rural Douglas County and, specifically, a membership of 400 with nearly 17,000 employees. The chamber, our members and businesses throughout our county are committed to growing business and economic opportunities and providing family-wage jobs for families in our community. On behalf of the Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce and Douglas County businesses, I am writing today to express our concerns about the impacts of HB 3427.

Gross receipts taxes are harmful to Oregon businesses and consumers. Taxing receipts, including business-to-business purchases of supplies, raw materials and equipment, encourages companies to become less efficient by bringing all those transactions in-house or moving them out-of-state. Ultimately, any new taxes will fall on Oregon's businesses and adversely affect consumers—mostly, our own citizens.

As detrimental to Oregon's economy, especially rural Oregon, as HB 3427 is, this proposition is not an isolated proposal. But, in fact, is part of a larger ask for more than \$5 billion in new taxes and fees this biennium. Please understand that \$5.67 billion in new taxes and fees is too big a burden for local businesses, especially in economically-challenged rural Oregon!

Getting tax policy right is crucial. Oregonians deserve a significant and lasting solution. PERS reform must be part of any revenue package in Oregon. We respectfully ask members of the committee to vote NO on HB 3427.

Best regards,

ROSEBURG AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Debra L. Fromdahl, IOM
President & CEO

cc: Members of the Joint Committee on Student Success
Members of the Douglas County State Legislative Delegation

VISION
MISSION

To advocate for and be the voice of the business community in the greater Roseburg area.

To strengthen, enhance and protect our members through political advocacy, economic development, community promotion and member programs and services.