April 3, 2017

Dear Chair Taylor & members of the Senate Workforce Committee,

The Oregon State Chamber of Commerce represents 84 local Chambers of Commerce and 24,000 local businesses in every corner of Oregon.

OSCC continues to oppose SB 828 with the – 3 amendments. Even with the amendments, SB 828 will be terribly harmful to the retailers, hospitality businesses and restaurants that are some of the staple employers in our local communities. The results of this bill would reduce the flexibility of employers to make important business decisions, and employees who chose flexible jobs for that reason.

Although we appreciate that the burdensome section (Section 3) is removed from the bill with the new amendments, we still opposed for the following reasons:

- Employees and employers should be able to adjust to changes in supply and demand
- Employers shouldn’t be penalized for making employment decisions
- Employees and employers benefit from flexible hiring and need-based driven schedules
- Employees and employers should be able to deal with unexpected life events.
- Employers know their industry and know their needs
- Employees and employers shouldn’t be penalized for bad weather

Coupled with recent increases in minimum wage and a new paid sick leave mandate, it is unrealistic to believe that a ‘predictive scheduling’ mandate can be layered on top without significant loss of small business and employment in our local communities.

SB 828’s scheduling mandate would create unfair penalties. OSCC does not conceive how many small businesses would survive this mandate even with the amendments.

Please oppose SB 828.

Sincerely,

Alison Hart
Executive Director
Oregon State Chamber of Commerce