



Oregon Society of Certified Public Accountants

10206 SW Laurel Street Beaverton, Oregon 97005-3209 • PO Box 4555 Beaverton, Oregon 97076-4555
503-641-7200 / 1-800-255-1470 • Fax 503-626-2942
oscpa@orcpa.org • www.orcpa.org

2021 Oregon Legislative Assembly Hearing – Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue Written Testimony for SB 852 related to Mortgage Interest Deduction – Opposition

DATE: May 13, 2021 – 3:15 p.m.

Good afternoon Chair Senator Burdick, Vice-Chair Senator Boquist, and Members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue.

On behalf of over 4,100 members of the Oregon Society of Certified Public Accountants (OSCPA), we respectfully submit written testimony in **opposition to SB 852**.

BACKGROUND:

The overarching issue and concern related to Senate Bill 852 is not limited to the specific subject matter of the Bill. Instead, from a more important perspective, the Bill advances the idea that disconnecting from federal tax statute and provisions is a simple course of action with few consequences. Disconnecting from federal statute and provisions increases state tax complexity, a significant consequence.

- Complexity negatively impacts Oregon taxpayers as well as tax advisors.
- Complexity can also have potential impact for the Oregon Department of Revenue. The more complex the process of understanding the differences between state and federal statutes and provisions, the higher the risk of unintended noncompliance by taxpayers. Not all taxpayers utilize the expertise of tax advisors.
- Supporting conformity, and not disconnecting from various federal statutes and provisions, is in the best interest of Oregon taxpayers. Conformity helps taxpayers to understand that the decisions made for federal purposes also impacts their Oregon tax obligation and compliance.

RECOMMENDATION:

On behalf of Oregon Society of CPAs, we respectfully encourage you to **oppose Senate Bill 852** and remain connected to federal tax code and its provisions.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our feedback with you today.

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