

Submitter: Joy Gabel

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1510

I have been an EA for over 30 years. I believe that after taking the EA exam, a person is way more qualified to do income taxes than an LTC or LTP and should not be subject to the additional testing. The EA exam is tough, and if one passes it they are more qualified than the Oregon Licensees.

The Idea of charging people who are out of the state or even in this state for preparing tax returns for Oregon and especially for Portland - Mult co. is ridiculous. We do not live in those places and should not be taxed trying to help clients who moved to those places or have been long time clients. I have clients in many states and counties because they move and still want my expertise. I should not be punished for their moving to Portland.

As far as employees, I used to have up to 3 employees, now I have none due to the new regulation that they need a license to answer the phone or scan paperwork. I, and everyone I know, do not hire people who do not have a good reputation. Many people are coming to me because they cannot find or have been asked to leave their preparer due to the inability to hire help because of this new regulation. Oregon citizens have a right to be helped with their financial needs, including tax preparation. I now have to work 12 to 14 hours, 7 days a week in order to satisfy the need. I am unable to get any one to take the classes, much less the exam.