Members of the JLARC Committee and Citizen's Commission, my name is Emily Shay with the Association of Washington Business. We are the state chamber of commerce and manufacturing association. I am signing in support of Rural County and CEZ New Jobs. As well as the Hazardous Substance Tax Exemption for Pesticides Sold out of the State.

AWB supports specifically these two tax preferences since they further protect and create more high-wage jobs in the manufacturing sector and lower the B&O tax for manufacturing in a manner that is not limited to geographic locations in the state.

For instance, the HST preference that is sold out of the state from a Washington warehouse impacts many Ag Chem Manufacturers, Distributors, and Retailers all across the pacific northwest. The main hub for Crop Protection Product Storage for WA, OR, and Northern Idaho is the Inland Empire Distribution warehouse in Pasco, WA. Most Crop Protection manufacturers warehouse at Inland Empire in Pasco and pallet upon pallet ships out to Oregon and Idaho. Additionally, some of our members across the state also has used the rural county tax preference in order to build new facilities that has led to higher job growth in the manufacturing sector.

AWB supports specifically these two tax preferences since it further supports HB 1170, the law that meets our state goals by double manufacturing in the next 8 years for our employment base, small businesses, and women and minority-owned manufacturing businesses.

I would further like to note that AWB supports any tax credit or incentives that exist to kick-start the economy and create job growth, including the other tax preferences mentioned today.

Thank you and I am happy to answer any questions.