Subject Line: Concern About SB 6229 and Its Impact on Washington Startups

Dear Senator [Last Name],

I’m reaching out as a startup founder building a company here in Washington.

Starting this company required real risk. I left a stable job, invested my own savings, and work long hours with no guarantee of success. Like many founders, most of my compensation is equity, not salary. The possibility that one day that equity *might* have value is what makes the risk worth taking.

SB 6229 would eliminate Washington’s alignment with the federal Qualified Small Business Stock (QSBS) exclusion. For founders like me, that significantly changes the equation.

QSBS isn’t a loophole. It’s one of the few tools designed to encourage people to innovate and invest in small, high-growth companies. It rewards long-term commitment and allows founders and early investors to reinvest in the next generation of startups.

If Washington taxes these gains while other states do not, it sends a signal. Founders will think carefully about where to incorporate. Investors will think about where to deploy capital. Future companies will choose Austin or Miami over Seattle.

I want to build here. I want to hire here. I want to stay here. Repealing QSBS will make it nearly impossible for me to stay here.

I respectfully ask you to reconsider this proposal and its impact on Washington’s startup ecosystem.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,
[Your Name]
[Company Name]
[City], Washington
[Phone Number]
[Email Address]