

Apr. 3, 2015

Honorable Val Hoyle, Chair House Committee on Rules 900 Court St NE Salem, Or 97301

RE: Senate Bill 927 clarifying that Metro's charter is the source of authority for issuing revenue bonds to be paid by visitor taxes

Dear Chair Hoyle and Members of the Rules Committee:

I am writing to you today to support SB 927. This bill will keep the job-creating Oregon Convention Center Hotel project on track and clear away any doubt that it can finally move to completion.

The Hotel is a benefit to not only the Portland area, but to the region as a whole. Beaverton supports this project because we know that our citizens will benefit from the 2,000 construction jobs and hospitality jobs created at the hotel, the Oregon Convention Center (OCC) and in business in our community that will provide services in the tourism industry.

Tourism is an important industry in the state of Oregon and for the metro area. The OCC is expected to attract between five and ten new, large conventions each year—critical for Oregon's ability to attract other major events, like the NBA All-Star week and NCAA Final Four.

SB 927 simply clarifies that Metro's charter is the source of authority for issuing revenue bonds to be repaid by visitor taxes. I urge to pass SB 927 and make the most of Oregon's investment in our tourism industry. Thank you for your leadership and support on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Denny Doyle

Mayor