



OREGON ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS

May 5, 2015

The Honorable Brian Boquist  
Chair, Senate Veterans and Emergency Preparedness Committee  
State Capitol  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Boquist:

On behalf of the Oregon Association of Broadcasters we would like to provide clarification for the record regarding Senate President Courtney's question regarding House Bill 2210A.

During the public hearing on HB 2210A on April 28, Senate President Courtney asked if newspapers would have access to transmission towers if they had them in the future under this proposed legislation. As the legislation is currently written, newspaper companies would not be eligible for First Informer training and certification and therefore would not have access to transmission towers under this program.

HB 2210A identifies an individual eligible for First Informer training and certification as an individual who is employed by, or acting pursuant to a contract under the direction of, a broadcaster. "Broadcaster" means a person that holds a license issued by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) under 47 C.F.R. parts 73, 74, 76 or 78. Newspapers that might operate a transmission tower in the future would fall under different FCC regulations.

The lobbyist for the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association (ONPA) has confirmed ONPA is not interested in amending HB 2210A to allow for employees of newspaper companies to have access to transmission towers it may own in the future. We have been told ONPA will consider revisiting this issue in future legislative sessions if it becomes an interest of its members.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this clarification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Johnstone", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bill Johnstone  
President & CEO  
Oregon Association of Broadcasters

cc: Members, Senate Veterans and Emergency Preparedness Committee  
OAB Board of Directors