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March 19, 2015

The Honorable Phil Barnhart Chair, House Committee on Revenue 900 Court Street NE, H-279 Salem, OR 97301 The Honorable Mike McLane 900 Court Street NE, H-395 Salem, OR 97301

From the Desk of Representative

Mike McLane

The Chamber of Medford/Jackson County tracks a large number of bills every legislative session that have an impact on member businesses and the Oregon economy. Within those lists of bills there are inevitably a few that stand out as extremely important and SB 611 is one of those bills.

At its regular March meeting, The Chamber Board of Directors voted, unanimously, to support SB 611 and urge you to do the same. Even the casual newspaper reader can guess that there are hundreds of millions of dollars in investment on Oregon's borders waiting for our state to decide on this important issue. If it is true that Apple, Google and Facebook are just a few of the high-tech leaders waiting for your leadership on this issue, do not slam the door in their faces and Oregon's future along with it.

No one will argue that the bill is perfect. If that were the test for every piece of legislation...none would pass. However, as a state that has been slow to come out of the Great Recession, we cannot afford to let the perfect get in the way of the good and therefore respectfully ask for your support of SB 611.

Best regards,

Jafs. Ails

Brad S. Hicks, CCE President & CEO The Chamber of Medford/Jackson County