March 27, 2017

House Committee on Economic Development & Trade

RE: HB 2078

Chair Lininger and Members of the Committee:

The Beaverton Area Chamber of Commerce strongly supports the passage of HB 2078 which extends the sunset for R&D Tax Credits for qualified research activities. The modern economy is built on innovation and the next newest and greatest idea. Businesses whose innovation becomes stagnant simply cannot survive. Sustained investments in R&D are the lifeblood of the modern business model and the bedrock of Oregon's economic future.

Beaverton's economic development efforts benefit greatly from businesses that have invested in the research and development of the next generation of innovation. Providing a tax credit for businesses that continually invest in their workforce and equipment is a positive incentive which reaps rewards for not only our Beaverton and Washington County economy but that of the State of Oregon as well.

We believe the businesses that have applied for and received R&D Tax Credits have been good stewards of this incentive and Oregon's economy has benefited through increased job growth and expanded capital investment.

The R&D Tax Credit is a competitive advantage that Oregon must maintain to ensure that businesses that are involved in creating products and services for the future remain in Oregon.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and we encourage your support of HB 2078.

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