



**SOUTH CENTRAL OREGON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

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April 17, 2017

Senator Betsy Johnson
900 Court Street NE, S-209
Salem OR 97301

Representative David Gomberg
900 Court Street NE, H-471
Salem OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Senator Johnson and Representative Gomberg:

The South Central Oregon Economic Development District (SCOEDD) is writing in support of the Ways and Means Committee favorably considering the Regional Solutions budget request for 2017-19. The request is for \$11M of lottery bond proceeds to support regional priority economic and community development projects. The bills related to the Regional Infrastructure Fund are HB 5025 and SB 5530.

The Regional Solutions funding is especially important to the rural communities within our region of Klamath and Lake Counties. These funds allow one stop access to state resources to provide information and remove barriers to implementation of projects. And by giving local input into the prioritizing of funding projects we are better able to address the key issues we deal with locally and regionally.

With funding received during prior funding years we have been able to reduce emissions from residential wood stoves resulting in cleaner air. This in turn is allowing for the needed expansion of our industrial base.

Thank you in advance for your continued support for this valuable program.

Respectfully,

Betty Riley,
Executive Director