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February 5, 2017

RE: SB 106

The Oregon Association of Broadcasters ("OAB") supports the creation of a Public Records Ombudsman to serve the public interest.

Local radio and television broadcasters serve many roles in their community, the most important of which is to serve as a check and balance of local and state governmental entities through their news gathering efforts.

The OAB believes the role of the Public Records Ombudsman should be clearly defined, and that the person (or persons) tasked with participating in this process should understand that transparency is necessary to ensure accountability to the citizens of the state of Oregon.

If facilitated properly, the OAB believes that local radio and television broadcasters can perform their primary function successfully, as can local and state entities.

Keith Shipman President & CEO

Oregon Association of Broadcasters

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