## LANE COUNTY

PUBLIC SERVICE BUILDING / 125 EAST 8<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE / EUGENE, OR 97401 / (541) 682-4442 / FAX (541) 682-3803

www.lanecounty.org

February 17, 2017

Via Email Only: jwmgg.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

Joint Committee on Ways and Means - General Government Subcommittee

Re: Letter of Support - HB 5008 / Relating to the Financial Administration of the Employment Relations Board

Dear Co-Chairs, Senator Manning and Representative Smith and Members of the Committee:

This letter is in support of HB 5008, relating to the financial administration and funding for the Employment Relations Board for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017. The majority of Lane County's workforce is unionized within seven (7) collective bargaining units. The mediation and conciliation services ERB provides for contract and grievance resolution is an invaluable resource. We have used State Conciliator Janet Gillman numerous times to reach agreement with several of its bargaining units. Lane County representatives have also found educational value in ERB trainings such as interest based bargaining.

We request the subcommittee recommend funding the agency at the level of the Governor's Recommended Budget.

Sincerely,

Andrea Nagles

Attorney

Lane County Office of Legal Counsel

Inga Aanrud

Labor and Employee Relations Manger

Lane County Department of Human Resources