



February 11, 2019

Representative John Lively, Chair
House Committee on Economic Development
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: City of Eugene Support of HB 2184

Dear Chair Lively:

The City of Eugene has telecommunications policies regarding endorsing and advocating for programs in which residents, businesses, and public institutions can have access to a full range of advanced telecommunications services at reasonable, affordable rates.

The City is supportive of the OPUC program outlined in HB 2184, which is aimed at promoting broadband deployment and use in rural areas of Oregon. Urban areas like Eugene want our rural partners to benefit from enhanced broadband services. This rural/urban collaboration is fully in action as Eugene and Lane County are working together to deliver high speed fiber service from a new improved 'Middle-Mile' peering point included in the Eugene Fiber Project.

- **HB 2184** brings wireless service providers into a fair and equitable OPUC fee structure that will benefit the wireless industry. The new revenue will support a grant program housed in the Oregon Broadband Office to invest in infrastructure needs in communities who are part of the digital divide.
- **HB 2184** will increase revenue for investments in telecommunications including the infrastructure that the wireless industry depends on and has been benefiting from for the last 20 years.

Thank you for your consideration of our support of HB 2184.

Sincerely,

Pam Berrian
Telecommunications Program Manager- (submitted electronically).