

February 25, 2019

Representative Jeff Barker, Chair House Committee on Business & Labor Oregon State Capitol 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 2769

Dear Chair Barker and Members of the House Committee on Business & Labor:

The Oregon Municipal Electric Utilities Association (OMEU) appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 2769, relating to the consultant selection process for professional services. OMEU is made up of eleven municipally-owned and operated electric utilities.

OMEU participated in the Qualification-Based Selection (QBS) Workgroup that met over the interim to develop HB 2769. We believe the legislation provides a common-sense option for public agencies contracting for architectural, engineering, photogrammetric mapping, transportation planning and land surveying services. Importantly, the bill levels the playing for public agencies in the negotiation process by allowing price information to be requested of qualified consultants prior to opening negotiations.

The passage of HB 2769 will provide a more balanced contract negotiation process. OMEU urges your support.

Sincerely,

Director