



# Oregon Citizens' Utility Board

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Honorable Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

As both an Oregonian and a volunteer board member of the Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (CUB) representing Oregon's U.S. House District 5, I strongly support the passage of HB 2866 and urge this committee to pass the bill out of committee. I am particularly interested in seeing the "Right to Know" portion of HB 2866 enacted as law.

As a legislatively-created non-profit with the mission to represent the interests of Oregon's residential utility customers, CUB strongly believes that customers of internet utilities should have the right to know how their information is being used. Our 21st century lives and economy are by necessity digital. Yet, in large part, we are unaware of what part of our lives live in the digital world.

For example, a 2018 Pew Research Center survey found that almost three-quarters of Facebook users (74%) say they did not know that the tech giant categorized users by various data points they collected and maintain lists of these different categories. Even more troubling, recent reporting by the Wall Street Journal and other publications have shown that unbeknownst to users, sensitive information from health apps that monitor heart rates, track menstrual cycles, or even log aspects of fertility including ovulation and attempts to conceive was being shared with third-party applications.

It should not be up to investigative reporting for Oregonians to know what data is being collected from them through their use of their digital devices and how the data is being used. HB 2866 will close the gap between what regular users like you and I know with what companies know.

HB 2866 guarantees Oregonians the fundamental Right to Know what happens with their personal information after they wittingly or unwittingly share it with an entity. What information is collected about them? Where does the information go after collection? To whom is the information shared, sold, leased, or otherwise transferred? The Right to Know portion of the proposed legislation *only* asks for honesty and transparency and does not restrict what companies can or cannot do with the data they collect.

I urge you to advance this bill out of committee and look forward to its continued progress through the legislative process.

Thank you,

Ian T. Davidson, MPP  
Board Member  
Oregon Citizens' Utility Board