House Rules Committee Members

My name is Carole Kinney. I am a blind resident of Oregon and a blind vendor in Oregon. I am contacting you today in opposition of House Bill 3431.

There is a 70% unemployment rate for a blind Oregon resident. In 2017 the law was amended to provide more job opportunities for the blind. My concern now is to question why at this time would Metro and/or any other entities want to be exempt from this law. No fiscal impact study was provided nor was any provided during the Administrative Rules Process.

Blind vendors in Oregon do not want to cause harm to Metro or any other entity. We only want to protect certain opportunities for those who are blind here in Oregon.

I understand that talks are underway with Metro, the blind vendors and Oregon Commission for the Blind with some progress being made.

I do believe the concerns that Metro shares can be addressed by way of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Oregon Commission for the Blind, and/or by way of the Rule Making process. The opportunities can be positive for all concerned.

Thank you Carole Kinney