

Targeted Economic Stabilization Measure

Support House Bill 2343A



Temporary Authorization for Local Governments to Waive Enterprise-Zone Eligibility Thresholds

- Enterprise Zones are critical tool in bringing long-term, sustainable jobs to distressed communities in urban and rural areas
- E-Zones allow local governments to offer 1-5 year property tax abatements to companies who invest in or expand within the designated area. Eligibility for the property tax abatement includes certain thresholds for hiring and retaining new workers.
- The pandemic, related Executive orders and restrictions have caused unforeseeable challenges for several employers receiving these E-Zone abatements.
- **Emergency action by the legislature is critical to allow local governments the ability to waive employment thresholds for those companies who drop below the employment thresholds to maintain existing abatements and avoid further threats to the workforce, their businesses and their operations.**
- The Legislature should provide temporary authority to local governments with House Bill 2343A to suspend Enterprise Zone employment requirements where employers can demonstrate to the zone sponsor that workforce curtailments are a result of the public health crisis and related economic impacts.

Oregon Economic Development Association is a statewide organization that works to advance successful economic development practice and policies for a vibrant and expanding Oregon economy.

