

ACEC Oregon

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF OREGON

February 7, 2022

To: Senate Energy and Environment Committee
From: Marshall Coba *MAC*
RE: Support for Senate Bill 1567 to Improve Energy Security and Resiliency

The American Council of Engineering Companies-Oregon is pleased to support Senate Bill 1567 and we thank you for bringing this important policy forward.

As front line professionals in the ongoing acknowledgement and preparation for a major seismic event, Oregon engineers understand and appreciate the significant risk of major devastation throughout the region. Among all the other key issues in the days that follow the event, we are keenly aware that the need for a readily available fuel supply will be a major factor in the ability of first responders and for our individual citizens to respond to this emergency.

SB 1567 will help accelerate preparation for a major seismic or other catastrophic event by requiring owners of the bulk fuel tanks to conduct seismic vulnerability assessments by July 1, 2024 and for the Department of Environmental Quality to promptly respond by November 1, 2024 with a report to the appropriate interim committee of the Oregon legislature. At the same time, this bill requires the Department of Energy to develop energy security plan and report to a similar committee also by November 1, 2024.

Chair Lieber, the more than 110 member firms of ACEC-Oregon and our more than 3,000 employees are committed to doing our part for an aware public and a resilient infrastructure in the event of a major seismic event. This bill will be a major asset to help continue the preparation of our region.

Thank you and Senator Dembrow for your leadership on this important policy.