



Serving Southern Oregon
Since 1948

Southern Oregon Sanitation Inc.

Date: 2/22/2022

To: Chair Smith Warner, Vice Chair Breese-Iverson, Vice Chair Fahey, and Members of the House Rules Committee

From: Southern Oregon Sanitation, Inc.

Re: **Support House Bill 4158**

HB 4158 provides an urgent short-term technical fix to Oregon's E-Cycles Program. The bill allows DEQ to change the projected goal of materials estimated to come into the program in 2022 and retain existing collection sites that are going to be stripped away from the public on March 1, 2022.

For over 70 years and three generations Southern Oregon Sanitation (SOS) has been serving the residents of Jackson and Josephine Counties. Since the inception of the E-Cycles program, SOS has managed more than a million pounds of the material that the DEQ has banned from landfills. We do this not for the little amount of reimbursement that we receive, as that does not cover the costs, but as a public service. When we received the 30-day notice that the City of Grants Pass was no longer going to have an E-Cycle drop off location, we moved into action. While it took multiple meetings to explain to both the DEQ and the E-Cycle programs that by ORS 459A.300 Grants Pass had to have a depot, we finally got through to them and are now back on the list of collection sites.

Why you need to support this short-term fix is other sites did not have that same luxury. The Rogue Transfer & Recycle station is one of those sites. Managing most of the E-waste in Jackson County and being removed from the program in an effort to cut costs is not what the original legislators had in mind when creating these rules. What you should not allow to happen is the closing of sites to save a few dollars at the expense of our environment and the public. HB 4158 does just that.

It does not take too long to figure out, if it is not easy, Electronic waste will either stay in the house or worse yet, end up in the woods or rivers. I am not sure an advertising campaign of *raft the Rogue and pick up a computer hard drive while you're at it* is a good one.

Please support (HB 4158) and thank you for your consideration.