



1 West Main Street
Suite 401
Medford, OR 97501

March 3, 2023

To: Chair Marsh
Vice Chair Levy
and Members of the House Climate, Energy and Environment Committee

Re: Support House Bill 3220 -2 Amendment to Update Oregon's E-Cycles Program

As the project coordinator for the Jackson County Recycling Partnership, I urge your support for the -2 Amendment to HB 3220.

The Jackson County Recycling Partnership is comprised of representatives from each city in Jackson County, the three Solid Waste Companies in the area, and the County itself. Our objective is to promote recycling, reuse, waste prevention, and composting through public education and outreach. We recognize the E-Cycles program is critical part of our recycling infrastructure. It enables our citizens to comply with the DEQ enacted ban on the landfill disposal of the covered electronic products.

In late 2021, issues arose with the current structure of the program when many of the existing collection sites, mostly in rural Oregon, were notified they would no longer be allowed to participate as a collection point in the E-Cycles program. If the current collection sites are dropped from the E-Cycles Program an estimated 1 million pounds of electronic waste, banned from landfill disposal, would be displaced without a convenient and environmentally responsible location for customers to take these materials to be recycled. And while a short-term solution was negotiated in 2022, it was acknowledged that a more permanent and equitable solution is needed. This led the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to convene a stakeholder group to determine the changes needed to ensure stable and convenient access to safely managed collection sites.

This effort resulted in the opportunity to address the issues identified in the original legislation, such as:

- Adding additional types of electronic devices covered by the program, increasing recycling opportunities for consumers.
- Increasing the number of collection sites, based on population density, and allowing all permitted solid waste facilities to opt-in to the program.

The Jackson County Recycling Partnership exists to guide our citizens to recycling, waste prevention, and reuse opportunities. This amendment will ensure stability and accountability of the program, particularly in rural Oregon, and will offer a safe and environmentally sound way to manage, store, transport and recycle hazardous electronic materials.

Thank you for your consideration. **We urge your support of the -2 Amendment.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise Barnes".

Denise Barnes
Project Coordinator
Jackson County Recycling Partnership