



P.O. Box 205 Junction City, OR. 97448
Phone: (541) 998-2062 Fax: (541) 998-3261
CCB# 86436 LCB# 5095

**Chair Taylor, Vice Chair Bonham, and Committee Members
Senate Committee on Labor and Business**

RE: SB850 – Written Testimony in Opposition.

Dear Chair Taylor, Vice Chair Bonham and Committee Members,

Anderson's Erosion Control inc. is a third generation family business which employs around 45 employees to complete both public and private landscape, irrigation, and erosion control projects throughout the state of Oregon. We specialize in large scale government contracts and regularly are subcontracted for ODOT and local agency projects ranging in contract value up to and over \$1,500,000.00. We take pride in having the ability and opportunity to provide our employees with the chance to work on prevailing wage projects. This bill would virtually exclude Anderson's Erosion Control inc. from future Public Works projects and hand them to union contractors, this will limit the number of bid's received for projects and create an unfair advantage to certain contractors over others.

Anderson's Erosion Control inc. is currently not a registered training agent nor do we plan to become one, we have always trained our employees on the job to complete the work we perform. We train employees to install all aspects of a landscape project and to operate specialty equipment (blower trucks, conveyor trucks, and hydroseeders) that take a certain skill set and attention to detail that we feel we need to train into our work force. Our employees are paid prevailing wage and receive benefits to be trained and this gives them motivation to stick with it, learn, and do the best job possible.

We have had one experience with signing a PLA, this was a WSDOT project and we were forced to sign the agreement or forfeit the contract. We signed the agreement and attempted to employ union laborers to complete the project, long story short the union could not provide enough labor and those that did show up left within an hour or two due to the work being 'too hard'. Needless to say we had to bring our employees up and finish the project as to avoid penalties due to schedule, we were later forced to pay the union for the hours our employees worked on the project. I feel that in our line of work we would be stuck without a workforce that could complete the projects.

I believe that the current system is working and creates an even plain for all contractors to compete for public works projects, this ensures that our taxpayers are getting the best possible deal for the money they invest on these projects. The current system also ensures that non-union employees are compensated equally with both pay and benefits.

Anderson's Erosion Control inc. is in opposition to SB 850.

Sincerely,

Jim Anderson
Corporate Secretary
Anderson's Erosion Control inc.