March 28, 2023

Representative Dacia Grayber, Chair
Representative Rick Lewis, Vice-Chair
Representative Thuy Tran, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee

RE: Marion County Supports HB 3260

Dear Chair Grayber, Vice-Chair Lewis, Vice-Chair Tran, and Members of the Committee:

The Marion County Board of Commissioners support House Bill 3260, which will amend ORS 480.341 and 480.344 to expand the authorized self-service of Class 1 flammable liquids at retail dispensaries to rural communities across Oregon. These amendments will remove barriers in rural communities and expand small businesses' ability to serve Oregonians across the state.

Rivers Run is the only gas station in the rural city of Detroit. The next closest gas stations are 20 miles to the West in Mill City and 56 miles to the East in Sisters. The unique location of Rivers Run make it a critical gas station to the local community, Oregonians who recreate at Detroit Lake, and people making the trip over the Cascade Mountain Range. Without proper planning, the Rivers Run gas station can be a pivotal point for someone making it safely to their destination.

The 2020 wildfires displaced much of the workforce in the North Santiam Canyon. This exasperated a workforce issue that many rural communities across Oregon had already been facing for years. The lack of available employees makes it difficult for the owners of Rivers Run, and rural gas stations across Oregon, to maintain consistent hours of operation. HB 3260 would allow small businesses across Oregon to serve customers all hours of the day, helping them get to their destinations safely.

The Marion County Board of Commissioners urges the committee to votes yes on HB 3260. Thank you for continued work to Oregon's rural communities.

Sincerely,

Colm Willis
Chair

Kevin Cameron
Commissioner

Danielle Bethell
Commissioner

BOC: AMK