

February 15, 2023

Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue Oregon State Legislature Oregon State Capitol 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

RE: Letter of Support – Extending Sunsets (Presently Supported in SB 134, HB 2066 and HB 2199) for Oregon Enterprise Zone Tax Abatement Program

Dear Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue,

Hakala Manufacturing, Inc strongly supports Senate Bill 134 and House Bills 2066 and 2199, which would extend the sunsets for the Oregon Enterprise Zone program. This program is the most effective economic development incentive Oregon has that promotes traded-sector business growth. Hundreds of companies in Central Oregon have been helped to leverage this program, creating well-paying jobs by providing a temporary tax abatement during critical operational growth periods. Our company is currently one of these.

Hakala Manufacturing, Inc is the largest custom cabinet manufacturer east of the Cascade Range. With the help of the Oregon Enterprise Zone Tax Abatement Program, we have been able to grow our business by building a new facility and providing increased employment and higher manufacturing wages to residents of Central Oregon. EDCO and the Oregon Enterprise Zone program was instrumental in assisting us to do this.

In a state like Oregon, which is inordinately dependent upon income tax as a primary source of revenue, there must be tools to create jobs. The Oregon Enterprise Zone program has a proven record of doing just that. I hope that you will join me in supporting the extension of this important economic development tool.

If you have any questions regarding my comments, please feel free to reach out to me directly. I would appreciate the opportunity to share my experience with this program.

Sincerely,

Todd Hakala, President Hakala Manufacturing, Inc

Jodd Habala

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