

Submitter: Michael Petersen

On Behalf Of: myself as an attorney

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On General Government

Measure: HB5035

I am writing very briefly to encourage the legislature to approve the Oregon Corporation Division's budget request. I am a business attorney in Bend, Oregon, and rely on timely information from the Oregon Corporation Division on a daily basis. The current lag times for filing documents and the inability to accomplish many routine filings online is a big problem. It causes Oregon taxpayers and businesses delays and more expenses related to starting and maintaining businesses. I access business information through many other state corporation division websites and can tell you that Oregon's online functionality is way behind the times. I formerly practiced in Salem and did not notice these problems because I was able to have staff hand deliver filings and information requests to the corporation division where they would be acted on immediately. That convenience does not exist for any attorneys who practice outside of Salem. Enhancing online functionality for the corporation division would, in my opinion, level the playing field and allow taxpayers who live outside of Salem to receive better legal and government services. Thanks!