

Chair Sollman, Vice Chair Findley, and Members of the Senate Energy and Environment Committee:

I urge your support for HB 3220A.

Republic Services has participated in the Oregon E-cycles program since its inception and has an interest in seeing important changes to the program to better allow Oregonians the opportunity to recycle electronics while providing an organized program for collection sites. Republic Services operates drop off locations in Portland, Salem, Benton County, Corvallis, Albany, and Josephine County.

In the 2020, we became aware of depots that were slated to close, specifically in Southern Oregon and on the coast, leaving the Republic Services locations to handle much more material than existing sites could reasonably be expected to collect. Other companies were also impacted. The Solid Waste industry in Oregon is an efficient and organized group and so discussions quickly began to understand why these changes were being proposed and how we could impact a positive change in electronics collection.

With the support of Representative Marsh, a short-term solution was reached in early 2022, but a lasting solution is needed.

We support HB 3220A and believe it will provide for collection sites that are convenient, safe, and efficient for all Oregonians. Permitted solid waste collection sites should have priority to opt-in to the program and are already designed to receive, store and ship electronics.

Provisions in the bill providing notice to permitted collection sites and options before a site is dropped from the program will protect communities. Providing communication to the public of changes to the program are also key to a successful program.

As a company that has been collecting, storing, managing, and readying e-waste for transport, we feel that fair compensation is important to keep sites operating at a level required and desired by the Cities and Counties we work in.