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April 4, 2023

Chair Sollman, Vice Chair Findley, and Members of the Senate Energy and Environment Committee, I urge your support for HB 3220A.

As a local government official, and Chairman of the Josephine County – City of Grants Pass Solid Waste Agency, I am well aware of the current challenges posed by electronic recycling. Josephine County is a local public agency with over 500 employees, and as such, we generate a substantial stream of 'e-waste'. Until recently, this material was accepted locally here in Grants Pass. Prohibitive costs forced all our local options to stop accepting materials, so all e-waste is now received by a hauler in Medford. While this is not optimal (30 miles of travel leads to much higher disposal costs), it is currently our only option in Josephine County

From a general public perspective, our Solid Waste Agency is frequently approached by local citizens interested in 'doing their part' to participate in e-cycling as much as possible. Based on frequency of conversations, e-cycling certainly appears to be one of our community top solid waste concerns not being met.

HB3220 would go a long ways in removing many of the e-cycle barriers that communities are facing. In an environment where folks are wanting to 'do the right thing', anything to ease the recycling process is greatly welcome. Speaking as a 'rural' official and citizen, the 2022 interim fix for e-waste acceptance was important, but the longer-term solution offered by HB 3220A is much more permanent.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Brandes
Director, Josephine County Public Works
Chair – Solid Waste Agency