



April 18, 2023

TO: Chair Sollman and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment  
FROM: AOC Legislative Affairs Manager, Michael Burdick  
RE: AOC support for HB 3220A

Dear Chair Sollman and Members of the Committee,

I offer this testimony in support of HB 3220A on behalf of the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) which has represented Oregon's county governments since 1906.

Electronic waste often harbors hazardous materials that need to be disposed of in a responsible manner. If consumers don't have a convenient way to dispose of these materials, or if consumers get confused about the proper way to dispose of these materials, the result will be that the materials end up in municipal garbage collection systems where they may compromise the safety of workers or cause extra costs for ratepayers. Or worse, the materials will end up being dumped along roadsides, or in other inappropriate places.

In Late 2021, certain communities started receiving notices about their local electronic waste collection facilities shutting down with only a few months' notice. Closing facilities on short notice without having a convenient alternative available for consumers invites confusion and is extremely counterproductive to the goal of ensuring these materials are disposed of properly. HB 3220 helps ensure a more stable collection system, which will avoid unnecessary disruptions for consumers and help promote consumer compliance with laws requiring that these materials be disposed of properly.

Since the E-Cycles program was created, many other extended producer responsibility programs have been designed and implemented, and it has become clear that the program design should be updated. A series of stakeholder meetings were held where solutions were negotiated among all affected parties. HB 3220A represents the result of that collaborative process. It updates and modernizes the E-cycles program to provide the stability that community members need to ensure consumers have a convenient way to dispose of these products responsibly. With the consent of affected manufacturers, the bill also includes some new types of electronic products to the program. We respectfully urge you to support HB 3220A.

Best,

Michael Burdick  
Legislative Affairs Manager for Community Development