

Submitter: Scott Winkels  
On Behalf Of: League of Oregon Cities  
Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business  
Measure: HB3572

To: Chair Kathleen Taylor

Senate Committee on Labor and Business

From: Scott Winkels, League of Oregon Cities, 971-428-7275

Date: 5/10/23

Re: Support for HB 3572

HB 3572 allows contracting agencies to provide a preference to registered benefit corporations when awarding public contracts at their own discretion. Local control and Home Rule are guiding principles for the LOC and this bill respects that. There are occasions when a city will want to deviate from the least cost method of public purchasing to provide added value to their community.

The ability to provide a 5% preference to a B Corp is generally consistent with other preferences contained within the public contracting code. The requirements to become a B Corp is defined in part as "...a material positive impact on society and the environment, taken as a whole, from the business and operations of the company." These requirements are frequently goals of Oregon's cities- It's appropriate for cities to have the authority to provide a preference when objectives align.

The LOC believes HB 3572 is reasonable and will be used responsibly by Oregon's cities and we urge its passage.