



May 18, 2023

Joint Committee on Tax Expenditures  
900 Court Street, NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Co-Chair Meek, Co-Chair Nathanson and members of the committee,

The Technology Association of Oregon (TAO) is the force behind the regional tech industry – supporting entrepreneurs, connecting peers and decision makers statewide, and helping establish the Northwest as a global hub for innovation. We work with over 500 tech and tech-enabled companies throughout Oregon, ranging in size from one-person startups to some of the largest tech companies in the world.

TAO appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of our members in opposition to HB 3457.

As amended, HB 3457 places a sunset on the Strategic Investment Program (SIP). The SIP has proven to be an effective tool for local governments and incentive for businesses as it gives government the flexibility to negotiate deals that meet specific community needs while also requiring them to engage in long-term planning and to invest into the infrastructure needed for business development. Our members believe that placing a sunset on this incentive does not make sense as it could impact future development in other counties that are not eligible for Enterprise Zone incentives. Ending this important program creates uncertainty for prospective companies and sends a message to prospective employers that Oregon is unwilling to demonstrate its commitment to new investment and jobs.

TAO urges the committee to reject the changes proposed in HB 3457 and pass a clean extension of the Strategic Investment Program.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Skip Newberry".

Skip Newberry  
President & CEO, Technology Association of Oregon