

Testimony of Anneliese Koehler, Legislative Affairs Manager

In support of Senate Bill 546

Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue

January 27, 2025



Metro

Metro is the elected regional government that serves nearly 1.7 million people in the 24 cities and three counties of the Portland metropolitan area. We provide a broad range of public services that includes land use and transportation planning, solid waste and recycling operations, housing and homeless services, management of parks and natural areas, and operation of major visitor facilities like the Oregon Convention Center and the Oregon Zoo.

Metro supports SB 546 which would allow the use of electronic signatures for qualifying for Oregon's Charitable Checkoff Program.

Numerous charitable organizations, including the Oregon Zoo Foundation, are interested in participating in the Charitable Checkoff Commission, but have been unable to do meet onerous criteria to collect 10,000 signatures by hand. SB 546 modernizes the criteria by allowing for electronic signatures and makes it easier for Oregon taxpayers to donate a portion of their personal income tax refund to their charity of choice.

Metro urges you to pass SB 546. Thank you very much for considering these comments and the opportunity to provide testimony.