

Senator Aaron Woods, Co-Chair

February 17th, 2025

Representative David Gomberg, Co-Chair

Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

Industrywide Support for Senate Bill 5511 - DCBS/BCD Budgets

The UA Local 290 Plumbers & Steamfitters (UA 290), Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association (PMCA), Sheet Metal & Air Conditioning Contractors National Association (SMACNA), Ironworkers Local 29, the Associated General Contractors (AGC), the Plumbing Heating Cooling Contractors, the Associated Wall and Ceiling Contractors (AWCC), the National Electrical Contractors (NECA) and the Oregon State Association of Electrical Workers (OSAEW) comprised of all of Oregon’s IBEW locals. **We strongly urge your support for House Bill 5511 – in particular the budget of the Oregon Building Codes Division (BCD) within the budget for the Department of Consumer and Business Services.**

Our organizations collectively represent hundreds of construction contractors and thousands of Oregon’s construction workers who work on public and private projects throughout the state. We interact with almost every aspect of the Department from workers comp to OSHA. Many of our contractors and members hold specialty licenses that are overseen by the Building Codes Division– which also administers the building codes we all work with daily.

We greatly appreciate their open communications and commitment to customer service. Our members also appreciate that the agency understands how important it is to protect dedicated funds, ensuring those funds are available to provide the services the public has paid for. When contractors, consumers and workers need the agency to perform its mission, there needs to be adequate and dedicated resources available to ensure the construction industry provides safe, durable and cost-effective buildings.

As construction industry representatives, we primarily work with BCD and our organizations support their POP requests for a new Learning Management System (POP 501), ePermitting and Billing Technology (POP 502) and additional Plans Examiners (POP 503). These POPs do not require raising their fees to us or other additional funding.

Construction is an important economic engine for Oregon and the work of the BCD staff is vital to it. The BCD’s ePermitting program is a great example of an innovative and cost-effective program that with industry support began almost 20 years ago and that BCD continues to evolve and enhance. Our industry has come to rely on it. We greatly appreciate the work and leadership of this agency’s staff, and that of DCBS, in proactively working with us to keep construction moving and the public and our workforce safe.



Submitted by: Brian Krieg – brian@focuspointcom.com