

Submitter: James Cavin  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3628

### Public Comment in Support of Oregon HB 3628

I am writing in strong support of Oregon HB 3628, creating the Oregon Electric Transmission Authority. This bill is a crucial step forward in ensuring the state's energy infrastructure keeps pace with the growing demand for renewable energy and efficient transmission across Oregon and will encourage businesses involved in the economies of the future such as Artificial Intelligence to invest in Oregon.

By centralizing the financing, development, construction, upgrading, and operations of our states electric transmission infrastructure, the proposed authority will play an instrumental role in catalyzing investment and gaining public support for much-needed expansion in our state's electric transmission capacity. This effort will help ensure that Oregon's energy grid is capable of meeting current and future needs, especially as we transition to more sustainable energy sources.

Furthermore, the establishment of transmission corridors with statewide significance will provide the framework to build a more reliable, interconnected energy system. The use of low-cost revenue bonds to finance these transmission projects, while ensuring that payments are collected from the users of the facilities, will foster a sustainable and equitable financial model.

Requiring the authority to submit an annual report to the Legislative Assembly will increase transparency and accountability, which fostering public trust in the authority's operations and activities. Finally, by limiting the authority's annual operating budget to no more than \$2 million, funded through charges from large industrial electricity customers, the bill ensures that the authority will operate efficiently and with clear financial constraints.

HB 3628 represents a forward-thinking and pragmatic approach to addressing Oregon's energy needs, and I wholeheartedly support its passage.