

March 3, 2025

House Committee on Higher Education and Workforce Development Oregon State Legislature 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for HB 3700 - Expanding Drinking Water and Wastewater Reciprocity

The City of Woodburn strongly supports House Bill 3700. Oregon's current reciprocity rules limit the number of certified operators, resulting in hiring challenges for our members.

Clarifying how the experience of out-of-state applicants aligns with Oregon's certification requirements will bring much-needed assurance in the recruitment process, while also upholding the high standards necessary to safeguard public health and the environment.

This bill is an important step toward a thorough conversation on reciprocity for drinking water and wastewater operators. We urge your support to help ensure Oregon's cities have access to a qualified workforce.

The City of Woodburn appreciates the opportunity to support House Bill 3700, and we stand ready to collaborate with the Department of Environmental Quality and Oregon Health Authority on this matter.

Frank Lonergan Woodburn Mayor

Office of the Mayor

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