



Janelle Booth, City Manager
Scott Cowan, Mayor

March 4, 2025

House Committee On Higher Education and
Workforce Development
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for HB 3634 – Operator-in-Training and Water Workforce Program

Dear Chair Hudson, Vice-Chairs Fragala & Harbick, and Members of the Committee,

The City of Millersburg expresses our strong support for House Bill 3634, which establishes the Water Workforce Program (Operator-in-Training) to address the critical need for drinking water and wastewater operators.

This is a very important issue for communities in Oregon, including ours, and we are grateful for the committee's time and willingness to hold a public hearing addressing this critical issue.

Reliable water infrastructure is essential for public health and community well-being, yet cities face a growing crisis as a significant portion of the workforce nears retirement. Without trained replacements, Oregon risks disruptions to safe drinking water and wastewater services. HB 3634 is a proactive solution to recruit, train, and retain skilled professionals in this vital field.

We urge your support for HB 3634.

Thank you,

Janelle Booth, P.E.
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