



March 5, 2025

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

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

On behalf of the City of Nehalem, we express strong support for House Bill 3700. Oregon's current reciprocity rules limit the available pool for certified operators, creating hiring challenges for our city.

Providing clarity for out-of-state applicants on how their experience translates to Oregon's certification requirements will offer much-needed certainty in recruitment while maintaining high standards required to protect 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 League of Oregon Cities is grateful for the opportunity to support House Bill 3700, and we stand ready to work collaboratively with the Department of Environmental Quality and Oregon Health Authority on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Lori Longfellow'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Lori Longfellow
City Manager
City of Nehalem