

March 7, 2025

AGC Testimony Re: SB 49 -1 Amendment

Dear Chair Pham, Vice Chair Anderson and Members of the Committee:

Associated General Contractors – Oregon Columbia Chapter represents a broad cross-section of the commercial construction industry, including open shop and union, rural and metro, highway and building contractors.

We appreciate the goal to increase housing and streamline processes in Oregon for construction. While this bill and -1 amendment focus primarily on the housing in Oregon, the -1 amendment makes a concerning change for commercial construction in Oregon.

Historically, there has been a seat for a general contractor on the Building Codes Structures Board at the Building Codes Division. The -1 amendment removes this seat at the Building Codes Structures Board and replaces the general contractor with a structural engineer. Given that this Board oversees commercial construction in Oregon, it is imperative that general contractors retain a voice on the Board. While a structural engineer can bring important perspective, their expertise is different from that of a general contractor.

We respectfully request that the general contractor seat be retained on the Building Codes Structures Board. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Adams
Director and Counsel – Policy and Public Affairs
Associated General Contractors, Oregon-Columbia Chapter

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