



March 17, 2025

To: The Joint Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

RE: Strong Support for House Bill 5024 – Technical Assistance Program (TAP) for Business Oregon

Dear Joint Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development,

On behalf of the National Association of Minority Contractors (NAMC) Oregon, I am writing to express our strong and unwavering support for **House Bill 5024**, which includes critical funding for the Technical Assistance Program (TAP) under Business Oregon.

NAMC Oregon is dedicated to advancing the economic development of minority contractors and businesses throughout the state. Our mission is to create opportunities, build capacity, and foster business growth for historically underserved businesses, particularly those owned by people of color. We provide advocacy, technical assistance, and programming to help minority-owned businesses thrive in the competitive construction and contracting industries.

The Technical Assistance Program (TAP) has been an essential resource for our members and the broader business community in Oregon. Its impact includes:

- **Expanding Access to Resources:** TAP has provided crucial guidance and funding support to businesses in historically marginalized communities, ensuring they have the tools to succeed.
- **Strengthening Business Resilience:** Through tailored programming and strategic support, TAP has helped businesses navigate challenges such as supply chain disruptions and workforce shortages.
- **Empowering Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Businesses:** TAP has played a key role in reducing barriers to capital, market access, and contracting opportunities for minority and women-owned businesses.
- **Driving Economic Growth and Equity:** By investing in underserved businesses, TAP has contributed to job creation and economic development in communities that need it most.



The continuation and expansion of TAP are critical to the long-term success of Oregon's small businesses, particularly those owned by minorities and women. Without this program, many of our state's most vulnerable businesses would face significant barriers to growth and sustainability.

We strongly urge you to **support House Bill 5024** and ensure that the Technical Assistance Program remains fully funded and accessible. The future of Oregon's small business ecosystem, particularly among businesses of color, depends on the continuation of this vital program.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration. We look forward to your support for HB 5024 and the ongoing success of Oregon's small businesses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nate McCoy". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

President & CEO
NAMC-Oregon
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