



March 18, 2025

Re: Portland Metro Chamber Support for HB 3666

Honorable Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Chotzen and Wallan, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary,

The Portland Metro Chamber is proud to submit testimony in support of the -1 amendment to HB 3666, the Wildfire Safety and Accountability Act.

The Portland Metro Chamber (The Chamber) is greater Portland's Chamber of Commerce and represents the largest, most diverse network of businesses in the region. The Alliance advocates for business at all levels of government to support commerce, community health and the region's overall prosperity. We represent more than 2,200 members, from 27 counties, 13 states and virtually every industry sector. More than 80% of our members are small businesses.

As wildfire risks continue, Oregon needs clear standards for how electric companies should work to prevent wildfires and keep communities safe. Clear guidance from the state legislature and regulators is critical to utilities' ability to manage wildfire risk and provide reliable, affordable power.

Reliable, affordable electric service is essential to powering Oregon's economy. And to ensure reliability and affordability, Oregon needs clear standards for what electric companies need to do to keep communities safe. Without clear standards for reducing wildfire risk as proposed in the HB 3666 -1 amendment, escalating insurance costs, lower credit ratings, and increasing difficulty accessing low-cost capital will impact customer affordability and delay badly needed investments in Oregon's power delivery grid. HB 3666 is a crucial step in reducing this risk and will help support economic development in communities across Oregon.

For these reasons, the Portland Metro Chamber urges the committee to support HB 3336 to protect affordable, reliable power and a healthy statewide economy that benefits all of Oregon. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jon Isaacs

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PORTLAND METRO CHAMBER

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