



Steve Corbató | Executive Director
corbato@linkoregon.org
503-998-3957

March 21, 2025

Co-Chair Aaron Woods
Co-Chair Nancy Nathanson
Joint Committee on Information Management and Technology
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Written Testimony in Support of HB 3228

Dear Co-Chair Nathanson, Co-Chair Woods, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of House Bill 3228 as introduced this session by Representatives Nathanson and Mannix and Senator Woods.

I serve as the executive director of Link Oregon, a non-profit organization established by the four largest research universities in Oregon – OHSU, Oregon State University, Portland State University, and the University of Oregon – and the State’s Enterprise Information Services unit. Link Oregon’s principal mission is to operate a statewide, facilities-based, middle-mile network to serve the network requirements of our founding members as well as the public and the non-profit sectors across Oregon.

Given our experience that the delivery of advanced network services and the maintenance of effective cybersecurity capabilities are intricately related, we have positioned ourselves as a close partner of the Oregon Cybersecurity Center of Excellence (OCCOE) from the outset. We meet with its leadership on a regular basis.

As a result of this Committee’s leadership, Oregon now has a rapidly developing statewide cybersecurity center based at three of Link Oregon’s founding members – Portland State University, Oregon State University, and the University of Oregon. The OCCOE is increasingly capable of addressing the growing cyber risks faced within the educational and other public sectors within Oregon.

In recent years, both the coverage requirements and the premiums for public organizations that purchase cybersecurity insurance have increased dramatically. These challenges were well documented at a cross-sector Oregon Education Cybersecurity Summit that Link Oregon organized at the Willamette Education Service District in Salem on January 31, 2023, as well as during recent expert presentations before this Committee.

HB 3228 charges the OCCOE to assess the use of cybersecurity insurance within the public sector in Oregon. We feel that the established assessment capability of the OCCOE and its knowledge of the various segments in the public sector make the OCCOE particularly well qualified for this role.

Furthermore, this legislation creates the Oregon Cybersecurity Resilience Fund that in the future, could enable the OCCOE to address cybersecurity insurance gaps in the public sector and to respond to cyberattacks, data breaches, and other security incidents. This Fund will serve as a means for greater preparedness and a backstop in the event of either a major attack or a dramatic change in the cybersecurity insurance marketplace.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input and for your continuing leadership to advance the level of cyber resilience in support of all Oregonians.

Link Oregon endorses HB 3288.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Corbató".

Steven Corbató, Ph.D.
Executive Director