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On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3374

A weakness of this bill is that it does not specify that subsidiary corporations should be subject to Oregon's open government laws.

This recently became an issue with the Clean Water Services District in Washington County, which formed a subsidiary captive insurer in Hawaii. The subsidiary was used for shenanigans such as Hawaii first class air travel and extra payments to public employees that were not reported to the Oregon Transparency database.

As a former OHA fiscal analyst, I witnessed firsthand how the OHA would use CCOs under the Oregon Health Plan to shield its dirty business such as regranting to news media organizations to buy off criticism of the OHA. These taxpayer-funded grants were and are still shielded from public records disclosure and from the legislative appropriations process.