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# A STRONG VOICE FOR OREGON'S WORKERS

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TO: Co-Chairs Broadman and Evans  
Members of the Joint Subcommittee on Public Safety  
FR: Graham Trainor, Oregon AFL-CIO  
**RE: HB 5014 Support**

April 17, 2025

Co-Chairs and Members of the Subcommittee on Public Safety,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of the Oregon Department of Justice's budget request and HB 5014 for the upcoming biennium. My name is Graham Trainor, and I am the president of the Oregon AFL-CIO, the statewide federation of labor unions representing over 300,000 workers across the state in every sector and corner, and a voice for all workers in the legislative process.

DOJ and the work of the Attorney General is integral to supporting Oregon's working families, and its services provide essential protections for workers in various industries. Attorneys General and the DOJ team enforce state laws, educate the public about important rights, propose legislation, file amicus briefs, produce reports, submit comments and provide testimony on state and federal legislation, and, in recent years, have sued the federal government over matters of national importance.

Across the country we've also seen State DOJ's directly engage in working family protections: in many states, they've held bad-actor employers accountable on wage and hour, and safety and health violations, used their power to crack down on misclassification – where workers are denied basic protections and benefits – and have brought and won cases on payroll fraud and non-compete agreements to help workers achieve better economic mobility. In this moment, it's critical that Oregon use every tool in our toolbox to achieve equity and fairness for those with less economic and social privilege and a robust and well-funded DOJ is critical to that work.

We also know that worker protections and consumer protections ultimately go hand in hand. This budget framework will enable the DOJ to continue to protect consumers, older adults and working families through their consumer protection group. Growing the DOJ antitrust team will help to protect our state from more and more bad actors. And Oregon has the opportunity to learn from other states' success in this area: Washington's consumer protection division has 50 FTE. Oregon's currently has 9.

We recognize that a strong, well-resourced DOJ is fundamental to protecting workers, particularly in a moment where our values, laws and practices in Oregon are under attack. For these reasons, we strongly support the DOJ's budget request. We urge you to prioritize the resources necessary to strengthen this agency and its ability to protect and serve consumers and working families.

Thank you for your time and consideration.