

Submitter: Gregory McGill

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB947

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 947. While I respect the legislative process and the intent to address pressing issues facing Oregonians, I must respectfully express my opposition to this bill due to concerns about its potential impacts, lack of clarity, and unintended consequences.

Potential Overreach and Burden on Oregonians

Without clear and specific provisions, SB 947 risks imposing unnecessary burdens on individuals, businesses, or communities. Legislation must balance the need for action with the potential for overregulation or infringement on personal and economic freedoms. I am concerned that this bill may not adequately consider the diverse needs of Oregon's residents, particularly those in rural or underserved areas.

Unintended Consequences

Many well-intentioned bills inadvertently create challenges for those they aim to serve. For example, if SB 947 involves new mandates or funding requirements, it could strain local governments, small businesses, or taxpayers without sufficient evidence of long-term benefits. I urge the committee to ensure that any proposed changes are thoroughly vetted through stakeholder input and impact assessments to avoid such outcomes.

Lack of Transparency and Public Engagement

The legislative process thrives on transparency and robust public participation. If SB 947 has not been accompanied by accessible information about its scope, intent, or anticipated effects, it risks undermining public trust. I encourage the committee to provide clear, detailed explanations of the bill's provisions and to extend opportunities for meaningful public input before moving forward.

Need for Evidence-Based Policy

Effective legislation should be grounded in data and real-world evidence. Without a clear demonstration of the problem SB 947 seeks to address and how its measures will resolve it, I am concerned that the bill may not achieve its intended goals. I respectfully request that the committee share studies, data, or expert analyses supporting the bill and consider delaying action until such information is available.

In conclusion, I urge the committee to reconsider SB 947 in its current form. Oregon deserves policies that are transparent, evidence-based, and carefully crafted to avoid

unintended harm. I encourage the committee to engage with a broad range of stakeholders, revise the bill to address these concerns, or, if necessary, reject it in favor of more targeted solutions.