

Submitter: Megan Kemple

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
General Government

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5016

Co-chairs Gorsek and Smith and members of the committee,

I am writing as an Oregonian and a lobbyist, to request that this biennium's legislative budget allow for two year-round staff per legislative office.

Access to my elected officials is highly important to me. I want to be able to trust that my organization's priorities and needs are heard and addressed by staff and that they are reaching legislators.

Year-round jobs attract and retain experienced personnel, ensuring stability, continuity, and institutional knowledge in the Legislature to better serve Oregonians. Qualified staff often leave soon after gaining the experience needed to effectively work in the legislature, leaving much legislative work to younger, less-experienced staffers.

Please fund adequate year-round staffing in legislative offices to support effective governance and public service.

Thank you,

Megan Kemple