

Responsive GOV ACTION

February 9, 2026

House Committee on Economic Development, Small Business and Trade

Re.: Letter of Support for HB 4084

Dear Chair Nguyen and Members of the Committee,

We write this letter in strong support of HB 4084, a bill to streamline permitting processes in Oregon. HB 4084 will provide a fast track permitting process for large-scale economic and community development investments, and lay the foundation for streamlining Oregon's state permitting process — increasing permitting process accountability, reducing permitting delays, speeding up critical housing and transportation projects, and saving Oregonians time and money.

HB 4084 establishes a Fast Track Permitting Council to expedite significant economic development projects in the State of Oregon, while requiring that any projects meet regional and statewide goals. The Council's inclusion of representatives from state agencies with authority over projects crucial to Oregon's growth and the well-being of its residents — including transportation, land conservation and development, energy, environmental quality, and water resources, and agriculture — will support a more collaborative permitting process that reduces duplication and provides critical project support and guidance.

HB 4084 also requires key state agencies to report on all permits issued by the agency, the process to apply for and receive each permit, and opportunities to streamline these processes. Agencies would be required to include feedback from permit applicants to inform their recommendations. In our experience, this cataloguing of a state's permitting processes is an important first step in comprehensively identifying roadblocks or barriers, gaps in staff capacity or resources, and areas of unnecessary duplication. Once complete, it lays the foundation for innovative, practical reforms that strengthen a state's ability to meet its economic and community development goals, improve the customer experience, and increase trust in the government's ability to deliver on its residents' most urgent needs.

Permitting reform is critical to build greater trust and help ease widely-held frustration with government writ large. Just [22%](#) of Americans say their last experience with state government left them extremely satisfied. The drawn-out, complex, and unclear processes for reviewing and issuing permits are often perceived by constituents as yet another instance of bureaucratic failure.

HB 4084 recognizes that it doesn't have to be this way, and establishes a framework for making Oregon's state permitting processes more straightforward, efficient, and trustworthy. When done well, we believe actions like those in HB 4084 can show citizens that their government can be responsive to their needs, and deliver on their promises.

We strongly encourage the Oregon Legislature to pass this bill. Thank you for your leadership and work on this important issue. If I can provide additional information, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

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