



February 11, 2026

Re: Portland Metro Chamber opposition to SB 1553

Honorable Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

The Portland Metro Chamber respectfully submits this testimony in opposition to SB 1553.

The Portland Metro Chamber (The Chamber) is greater Portland's Chamber of Commerce and represents the largest, most diverse network of businesses in the region. The Alliance advocates for business at all levels of government to support commerce, community health and the region's overall prosperity. We represent more than 2,200 members, from 27 counties, 13 states and virtually every industry sector. More than 80% of our members are small businesses.

The Portland region is facing significant economic uncertainty with record commercial vacancy rates, stagnating population, and tens of thousands of job losses resulting in declining state and local revenues from business and property taxes. We know the state budget is dependent on a healthy economy in the Portland region. A study published in 2025 showed that every state dollar spent in Portland has returned approximately \$1.55 to the state general, or a 55% return.

The Portland Metro Chamber has significant concerns about the negative economic impacts of SB 1553. The Chamber urges the legislature to pursue a comprehensive approach to wildfire-related issues in Oregon, rather than target one Oregon-based company that has settled the majority of its wildfire claims and remains engaged in appropriate legal processes. In addition, if passed, SB 1553 would increase the cost of critical electricity service to businesses and residents around Oregon by negatively impacting the company's credit rating and increasing borrowing costs.

For these reasons, the Portland Metro Chamber urges the committee to oppose SB 1553 to protect affordable, reliable power and a healthy statewide economy that benefits all of Oregon. Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Jon Isaacs**

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**PORTLAND METRO CHAMBER**

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