



February 16th, 2026

To: Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Brock Smith, Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

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BlueGreen Alliance (BGA) is an alliance that works with labor and environmental organizations aimed to address our environmental challenges while creating good quality jobs. BGA is guided by the principle that we can no longer choose between good jobs and a clean and safe environment—that the actions we take to create quality jobs and to protect working people and the environment must go together as we will build a clean, thriving, and fair economy.

HB 4102 as described by bill proponents aims to improve the efficiency, transparency, and responsiveness of DEQ permitting by further amending ORS Statute 468.03 dubbed the “The Receipts Authority” statute. The statute states that “the department shall identify department activities or portions thereof suitable for contracting out to third parties”. This legislative effort, similar to other bills, aims to advance a prosperity agenda.

BGA applauds efforts to improve efficiency, transparency, and responsiveness of our state permitting and land use processes in an effort to advance prosperity, however we fundamentally believe that there needs to be further emphasis of a shared prosperity for all Oregonians. Furthermore, we believe the state should invest in hiring more DEQ staff in helping accelerate permitting, and should exhaust all options before utilizing third party vendors.

The -1 Amendment “Oregon Responsible Contracting Standards” aims to further clarify that intent and value by further clarifying the public interest section of the legislation:

- First, asking third party vendors to disclose potential or actual conflicts of interest with the applicant, permittee, or
- Disclose prior experience and demonstrated knowledge of the project and regulatory process



- Resources in meeting performance obligations of similar contracts
- And further requiring applicants to attest to make an Oregon commitment to shared prosperity: to hire Oregonians for potential construction work with living wages via “skilled and trained” requirement.
- Attestation is waived if an applicant has a binding legal agreement with labor and community groups

What does Responsible contracting (skilled and trained + CBA) do?

- Commits construction contractors to hire skilled craft Oregon workers and ensure training opportunities for Oregonians with a journey worker and apprenticeship requirement
- Utilize prevailing wages
- Provide Family health and retirement
- Ensure workers have OSHA 30 training

We ultimately believe HB 4102 should include a holistic view that the work of public agencies avoid privatization, and any expedited or streamlined process intended to benefit industry be balanced with the interests of workers and frontline communities.

Respectfully,

Ranfis Giannettino Villatoro
Oregon Senior Policy Manager
BlueGreen Alliance