



2-16-26

Dear Chair Broadman, Vice-Chair McLane and Members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue,

On behalf of the National Association of Minority Contractors – Oregon (NAMC-Oregon), I write to express our strong support for Senate Bill 1586.

NAMC-Oregon represents construction and professional service firms and businesses owned by people of color across our state working on both public and private projects. Our members are deeply invested in Oregon’s long-term economic competitiveness and in ensuring that economic growth translates into meaningful opportunity for small businesses and historically underrepresented contractors.

SB 1586 makes strategic updates to Oregon’s economic development framework that will strengthen our state’s position in advanced manufacturing, semiconductor research, biotechnology, alternative energy production, and regionally significant industrial development. These industries generate high-wage employment, long-term capital investment, and substantial supply-chain demand that directly benefit local contractors and small businesses.

This legislation enhances and modernizes Oregon’s research tax credit program while raising the overall credit capacity available to qualifying companies in the coming biennia. It sends a clear message that Oregon is positioning itself to compete strongly for advanced manufacturing investment. When large-scale facilities are established or expanded in the state, the economic effects extend across multiple sectors, stimulating growth in engineering, site development, construction, logistics, maintenance, and professional services.

For NAMC members, these projects represent contract opportunities in civil work, electrical, mechanical, concrete, specialty trades, and ongoing facility upgrades. Ensuring that Oregon remains attractive to high-technology and advanced manufacturing firms means sustaining a robust pipeline of capital projects that small and large local contractors can access.

We appreciate that the bill maintains and reinforces wage standards tied to county and state averages. Advanced manufacturing and traded-sector growth must produce quality jobs. High-wage job creation strengthens household stability and expands the skilled labor pool that contractors rely on.



As project pipelines grow, so does demand for electricians, ironworkers, operators, carpenters, and technical professionals. This creates opportunities for apprenticeship programs, workforce training partnerships, and career pathways for communities that have historically been underrepresented in the trades and high-tech sectors.

SB 1586 also improves transparency and efficiency in permitting by directing key agencies to establish processing deadlines and publish permit catalogs. Delays in permitting disproportionately impact small contractors who often operate with tighter margins and less flexibility than large firms.

Clear timelines and public accountability reduce uncertainty, help contractors schedule work more effectively, and lower project risk. Greater predictability supports healthier participation by small and minority-owned businesses across the construction ecosystem.

Oregon is at a pivotal moment. Global competition for advanced manufacturing and semiconductor-related investment is intensifying. SB 1586 positions our state to compete, attract capital, and generate high-wage employment while creating meaningful opportunities for local contractors.

NAMC-Oregon urges the Committee to support SB 1586 and advance this legislation. We stand ready to work with legislators, agencies, and industry partners to ensure that the economic growth this bill catalyzes is inclusive, equitable, and beneficial to businesses of all sizes across Oregon.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nate McCoy
President & CEO
National Association of Minority Contractors – Oregon Chapter (NAMC Oregon)