

February 17, 2026

Senate Committee on Commerce and General Government
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for SB 1586



Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce and the more than 500 businesses we represent, I am writing to express our strong support for Senate Bill 1586.

SB 1586 is a comprehensive economic development measure that strengthens Oregon's ability to compete for advanced manufacturing, semiconductor research, and regionally significant industrial investment. The bill modernizes and expands tax incentives for semiconductor research, advanced manufacturing, enterprise zones, and regionally significant industrial sites, while also improving transparency and accountability in state permitting processes.

From the Chamber's perspective, this legislation addresses three critical needs facing Oregon's business climate:

1. Global Competitiveness in Advanced Manufacturing

Oregon has long been a national leader in semiconductor and high-technology industries. SB 1586 updates and expands the research tax credit framework to support qualified companies conducting research and development in Oregon.

These industries provide high-wage jobs, create strong supply chains, and generate significant downstream economic impact. Maintaining and enhancing our competitiveness in this sector is essential for long-term economic vitality.

2. Strengthening Enterprise Zones and Industrial Sites

The bill extends and refines enterprise zone and regionally significant industrial site programs, helping communities attract large-scale employers that create family-wage jobs.

For communities like McMinnville, access to robust industrial development tools is critical. Strategic incentives help level the playing field when competing with other states for major employers and capital investment.

3. Predictable and Transparent Permitting

SB 1586 requires certain state agencies to establish and publish deadlines for processing permit applications and to make permitting information publicly available.

Predictability in permitting is one of the most frequently cited challenges by Oregon employers. Clear timelines and greater transparency improve accountability, reduce uncertainty, and help businesses plan investments with confidence.

This bill sends a strong message that Oregon is committed to economic growth, innovation, and job creation. It supports high-wage employment, regional development, and a more efficient regulatory environment—priorities that directly benefit our members and communities across the state.

The McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce respectfully urges your support of SB 1586. Thank you for your leadership and consideration of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

John Olson

President & CEO

McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce