



WASHINGTON COUNTY OREGON

February 16, 2026

Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

VIA OLIS

Dear Chair Broadman, Vice-Chair McLane, Members of the Committee:

Washington County is writing in strong support of the Oregon Jobs Act, Senate Bill 1586 with the -4 amendment.

First, we sincerely appreciate Senator Sollman, the City of Hillsboro, Metro, legislative leadership, and the many stakeholders who worked diligently on this proposal. **Washington County has been actively engaged with the bill sponsors and partners at every phase of this process—providing detailed feedback, raising implementation considerations, and working collaboratively to strengthen the proposal.**

We are especially appreciative of the efforts made to ensure that the work performed by county assessors is recognized and that appropriate cost-recovery offsets are incorporated. This bill reflects thoughtful collaboration, meaningful responsiveness to local government input, and a genuine commitment to problem-solving.

SB 1586 -4 provides a clear and strategic path to bring approximately 373 acres into the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) supporting industrial land site readiness, generating long-term economic opportunity and job creation and in Washington County - with powerful multiplier effects across the state. This expansion represents an important opportunity to position Oregon competitively for traded-sector investment with a focus on high wage industries in advanced manufacturing.

The Washington County Board of Commissioners supported the original vision of this bill to



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bring approximately 1,700 acres into the UGB to unlock these lands for much-needed industrial use, spurring job creation and expanding economic opportunity in our region. While the bill ultimately advances 373 acres for immediate inclusion, we continue to believe the full 1,700-acre concept is critical to meeting the long-term industrial land demand. We appreciate the work to designate approximately 1,400 acres within Urban Reserves and view that step as an important bridge—not an endpoint. We look forward to continued partnership with Metro, the City of Hillsboro, and legislative leadership to advance those lands into the UGB in the near future and fully realize the economic opportunity envisioned in the original bill.

We greatly appreciate the decision to remove the enterprise zone provisions from the measure. Counties administer enterprise zone exemptions through our assessors' offices, and while we strongly support economic development tools that advance business growth, any expansion or extension of those programs should be paired with clear cost-recovery mechanisms for the local governments responsible for oversight. This principle ensures that economic development incentives do not inadvertently shift administrative or fiscal burdens onto counties.

We look forward to continuing to work with legislative partners and the Governor's office on enterprise zone policy discussions, including appropriate cost-recovery structures and revenue impacts to local governments, in a statewide context where these issues can be evaluated holistically and with full consideration of impacts across Oregon.

We are also grateful for the revisions made to Section 11 pertaining to the advanced equipment property tax exemption. The updated process language provides greater clarity, improves coordination expectations, and reflects the importance of ensuring that state-level economic development actions align with the implementation responsibilities, administrative work, and service capacity considerations of local governments. That clarity strengthens implementation and reduces uncertainty for all parties.

Washington County strongly supports economic development and the creation of high-quality jobs that strengthen our advanced manufacturing ecosystem and Oregon's competitiveness. SB 1586 with the -4 amendment, shows a strong commitment from the state in growing economic opportunity throughout the state and Washington County. This investment will, in turn, allow for continuing opportunities for employment that will anchor these businesses to our communities. We appreciate the strong leadership from Senator Sollman in bringing partners

Board of County Commissioners

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together to advance shared goals for long term economic opportunity.

We look forward to continuing our partnership in growing Oregon's economy and respectfully urge your support for SB 1586 with the -4 amendment.

Sincerely,

Jerry Willey
Vice Chair, Commissioner District 4
Washington County Board of Commissioners

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