

Submitter: Lisa Batey
On Behalf Of: self
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Capital Construction
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4084

Dear Members of the Joint Subcommittee on Capital Construction:

My apologies for the informal nature of this submission. I would have placed this on City of Milwaukie letterhead and have consulted with my fellow Council members, had time allowed.

I want to express my support for HB 4084.

This bill and the semiconductor bills in recent sessions have a lot of focus on adding new industrial lands and on funding to make these larger parcels more ready for development. Milwaukie, with limited industrial land and no urban growth boundary, isn't really a candidate for many of their provisions.

But the enterprise zone enhancements in HB 4084 could be valuable for Milwaukie.

HB 4084 would modernize enterprise zones to increase access for businesses that may not have otherwise qualified for this economic development tool by:

- o Expansion of where a zone can be located. Right now, communities can only qualify for the designation as an enterprise zone if they generally demonstrate economic hardship. This cuts out some communities that want to have this tool available in order to drive economic development. The bill allows for six objective criteria that Business Oregon can use in establishing an EZ. These include:
 - ? specificity around an economic transition for a community;
 - ? presence of underutilized, vacant, or redevelopment-ready land;
 - ? alignment with adopted economic development strategies;
 - ? demonstrated opportunity to support emerging, traded-sector; or
 - ? innovation-driven industries, among a few others.
- o The bill also increases the number of potential abated tax years from 3-5 to up to 7, subject to any applicable school support fee requirements. The current version includes a provision allowing for a longer extension, capped at a total of 10 years, if approved by a local zone sponsor under rules that will be adopted by OBDD.
- o Clarifies that a sponsor may approve alternative performance criteria that support the objectives of the zone designation including job retention, wage growth, in addition to the current job creation requirement.

I consulted with our community development team, who were in agreement that these are provisions that could benefit Milwaukie. I urge your support for HB 4084.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lisa M. Batey, Mayor