



Board of County Commissioners

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Tammy Baney
Anthony DeBone
Alan Unger

February 24, 2011

Hon. Phil Barnhart, co-chair
Hon. Vicki Berger, co-chair
House Revenue Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for HB 3494


Dear Rep. Berger and Rep. Barnhart:

The Deschutes County Board of Commissioners wishes to extend its enthusiastic support for HB 3494, which extends the sunset date of enterprise zones from 2013 to 2023.


Enterprise zones have been a critically important economic development tool in Deschutes County, having been used to attract and support more than 120 businesses, bringing with them thousands of jobs and millions of dollars in investment. This degree of investment would likely not have occurred without having an enterprise zone in place. Enterprise zones are especially important in the formative years of a business, when it's critical to keep overhead costs down, and for businesses such as solar power manufacturers and data centers, an enterprise zone can be the difference between a company coming to Oregon or locating elsewhere.

We believe the enterprise zone program has been a tremendous success story not only in Deschutes County, but throughout Oregon. We urge the Revenue Committee's support for HB 3494.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baney, chair



Anthony DeBone, commissioner
Deschutes County Board of Commissioners