



673 Market Street • Medford, OR 97504

MEASURE: HB 3017  
EXHIBIT: 5  
Senate Finance and Revenue 76<sup>th</sup> Session  
DATE: 05-18-2011 PAGES: 2  
SUBMITTED BY: Ron Fox

*Submitted not heard*

May 17, 2010

Honorable Senator Ginny Burdick, Chair  
Honorable Senator Frank Morse, Vice Chair  
Senate Finance and Revenue Committee  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE, S-213  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Senators Burdick and Morse,

I understand the Senate Finance and Revenue Committee will be accepting testimony regarding House Bill 3017 – legislation to extend the current sunset provision for Oregon's Enterprise Zones on Thursday, May 19, 2011. Since I am unable to appear before your committee in person on Thursday I would like to submit this letter as my testimony in support of passage of HB 3017.

Oregon's Enterprise Zones have been an effective tool to encourage business investments and job creation for our communities in Southern Oregon for almost twenty years. During the period of 1992 through April 2011 our three enterprise zones covering Jackson and Josephine County communities have stimulated new private business investments totaling over \$189 million and resulted in the creation of 2,372 new jobs. The short-term property tax exemption benefits provided to these traded-sector businesses has been responsible for the diversification and stability of our regional economy.

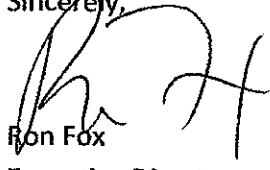
Our enterprise zone sponsors, the City of Medford, Jackson County, the City of Grants Pass, and Josephine County have repeatedly applied for the renewal of the enterprise zones. These jurisdictions understand the importance of offering the short-term property tax exemption benefits to traded-sector businesses as an incentive to choose Southern Oregon or for our existing businesses to continue to expand in our communities when they are presented with competitive options from other locations around the world.

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Asante Health System  
Avista Corp.  
Bank of the Cascades  
Boise Cascade, LLC  
Burrill Real Estate, LLC  
City of Ashland  
City of Central Point  
City of Grants Pass  
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CenturyLink  
Evergreen Federal Bank  
First American Title Company  
    Jackson/Josephine Division  
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Jackson County  
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Southern Oregon Sanitation  
Southern Oregon University  
South Valley Bank & Trust  
Sterling Savings Bank  
The Job Council  
The Wright Group Consultants  
    with D.A. Davidson & Co.  
Umpqua Bank  
US Bank

As the global economy recovers from the Great Recession we hope to continue to offer the short-term property tax benefits to new and existing businesses as an incentive to make new investments and to create additional, quality jobs for our region. To achieve that vision we need your support to extend the sunset provision currently set for June 30, 2013 for all enterprise zones in Oregon.

I urge your support and passage of House Bill 3017 so that we can continue to promote job growth and economic diversity within the communities of Southern Oregon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ron Fox', written over a white background.

Ron Fox  
Executive Director

cc: Bill Hoke, Deputy City Manager, City of Medford, Laurel Samson, City Manager, City of Grants Pass, Mark Reagles, City Administrator, City of Rogue River, Don Skundrick, County Commissioner, Jackson County, Dwight Ellis, County, Commissioner, Josephine County