



63090 Sherman Road
Bend, OR 97701
T 541-312-6459
C 503-319-9825
F 541-317-8740
LWeitman@bendbroadband.net

May 5, 2011

Representative Jules Bailey
Representative Vicki Berger
Co-Chairs, Tax Credit Committee

Oregon Legislature
Oregon Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Senate Bill 317a

Honorable Representatives Bailey and Berger,

I am the VP of Technical Operations for Bend Broadband, a local, family-owned business that has served Central Oregonians for more than 50 years. I also hold the position of project manager for the Bend Broadband Vault, which recently held its grand opening. The Vault is Central Oregon's premier and only Tier III, co-location data center that provides flexible, leased data center space to suit organizations from small and medium-sized businesses to enterprise-class companies. The Vault project would not have been possible without programs like the enterprise zone, Oregon Investment Advantage, and the e-commerce zone. Because of these incentives, Bend and Deschutes County receive \$15M in new investment, add six jobs at an average salary of \$70,000, offer high quality data center services to businesses throughout the western United States, and add a new export business sector.

I urge support and passage of Senate Bill 317a which would extend the sunset provision of the E-Commerce Tax Credit beyond its current termination date of June 30, 2013. To compete effectively against other similar businesses operating in other states Oregon needs the benefits of the E-Commerce tax credits to assure continued success. Please support the extension of the E-Commerce Tax Credit benefit as proposed in Senate Bill 317a.

Sincerely,

Leonard Weitman
VP Technical Operations

MEASURE: SB 317-A
EXHIBIT: 7
Joint Committee on Tax Credits 76th Session

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SUBMITTED BY: Leonard Weitman

Submitted not heard