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MEASURE: SB 1511
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SUBMITTED BY: Kevin Halsey

ENGINEERING . PLANNING . ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

January 24, 2012

Re: Support for SB 1511 and HB 4126

Members of the Oregon Legislature:

Parametrix is a Pacific Northwest based multi-disciplinary consulting firm with offices in Portland and Corvallis. Approximately five years ago, Parametrix created an internal organization dedicated to developing ecosystem services based decision support tools, and using those tools to better integrate ecosystem services into important land management decisions. Over the five years of our group's existence the company has made a considerable investment in developing metrics and supporting development of ecosystem markets, including supporting staff participation in the SB 513 working group.

The company made this investment because it sincerely believes that ecosystem services and ecosystem services based markets can significantly improve land management. Ecosystem markets hold the promise of promoting ecological improvement in a sustainable, economically and socially viable manner. Parametrix believes that the concepts inherent in these innovative approaches will revolutionize our industry over the course of the next decade. We made the investment because we want to be at the forefront of that revolution.

The state of Oregon is in a position to make the same decision. SB 1511 and HB 4126 propel Oregon into a position of clear leadership for integrating ecosystem services and markets into land management processes. This position of leadership translates to improving the lives of the citizens of Oregon, who reap the benefits of a State moving towards sustainability. It also provides tangible benefits to the businesses and non-profits operating in Oregon, who will continue to capitalize on the reputation Oregon is gaining as a thought leader in the ecosystem services field. For these reasons Parametrix strongly supports passage of SB 1511 and HB 4126. Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

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inspired solutions
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