



MEASURE: SCR 208
EXHIBIT: 3
2012 SESSION S ENV. & NAT. RESOURCES
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SUBMITTED BY: Randy Tucker

February 14, 2012

Senator Jackie Dingfelder, Chair
Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Senator Dingfelder and Members of the Committee,

The Metro Council strongly supports Senate Concurrent Resolution 208 and thanks you for providing this opportunity to honor Steve Apotheker for his lifelong commitment to the environment and his exceptional service to the state.

Steve dedicated his career to resource conservation and was one of Oregon's and the nation's top recycling experts. From his early days as a recycling pioneer in Illinois to his thirteen years as a senior policy analyst at Metro, he earned a reputation as a visionary steward of the environment.

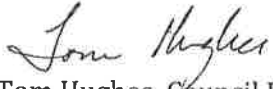
Steve had a brilliant mind and was an effective advocate and teacher. He used his deep knowledge and analytical skills to help the region and state evaluate options for improving our recycling efforts. He was instrumental in Metro's efforts to increase business waste prevention and recycling, capture more construction debris and compost food waste. His recommendations helped guide the Legislature in substantially updating the Bottle Bill. His range and depth of knowledge made him an invaluable resource.

Steve's leadership encouraged people to go beyond recycling and consider our overall use of resources and the impacts we have on the environment. He advocated for policies that required manufacturers to share responsibility for their products and packaging, including making those products more reusable and recyclable. He believed that everyone involved in a product's life cycle, from those who extract the raw materials to the end user, has responsibilities and plays an important role in helping protect the environment. By helping to advance new models for decision making that include full evaluation of environmental impacts, he worked to provide the information people need to see the impacts of their choices.

Steve also focused his efforts on getting Metro to improve its own operations by establishing Metro's Green Team. As a result, we have a comprehensive waste prevention and recycling program and a strong focus on improving the efficiency and sustainability of our operations.

Metro is better off today because of Steve's leadership, work and dedication. He was an inspiration to those around him and will be sorely missed.

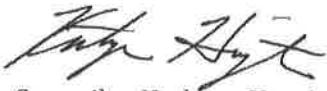
Sincerely,



Tom Hughes, Council President



Councilor Carlotta Collette, District 2



Councilor Kathryn Harrington, District 4



Councilor Barbara Roberts, District 6



Councilor Shirley Craddick, District 1



Councilor Carl Hosticka, District 3



Councilor Rex Burkholder, District 5