

## HB 2323

## **Oregon Growth Board**

## Ann Hanus Policy Manager Association of Oregon Counties

The Association of Oregon Counties urges your support for the continuation and funding of the Oregon Growth Board. Counties have a strong interest to further economic development and job retention/creation to enhance the wellbeing of our citizens and provide needed funding for critical services.

We believe this legislation will help coordinate economic development financing programs and provide capital for business formation and growth. The Oregon Growth Board fills a capital funding need and builds on the other business finance and incentives provided by the state.

The Oregon Growth Board worked diligently over the last year to develop a solid set of recommendations that will focus on making smart investments and leveraging dollars to promote business in Oregon. The financing from the Oregon Growth Board will benefit emerging and early stage entrepreneurial business – companies that could set the stage for significant future growth and job creation.