



May 6, 2013

Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources
Oregon State Capitol Building
900 Court St NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Opposition to HB 2005, Section 5, elimination of building official from Mechanical Board

Hon. Chair Dingfelder and Committee Members:

The Oregon Building Officials Association strongly opposes the removal of the municipal building official seat on the state Mechanical Board, as it would eliminate an important voice and balance to the work of this advisory board.

The composition of the Mechanical Board is currently weighted toward industry, with only two local government members on the Board. Removal of one of those two positions would eliminate the balance offered by the inclusion of local government perspective, and could have the unintended consequence of reducing statewide consistency at the local building department level.

OBOA is supportive of the other concepts in the bill and supportive of efforts to encourage energy efficiency through improved efficiency of mechanical systems. We do not believe that eliminating the voice of the local building official on the Mechanical Board would further these goals. We would appreciate any efforts by this Committee to instead expand the Mechanical Board to accommodate the addition of an insulation contractor, rather than removing the building official.

The Oregon Building Officials Association welcomes the opportunity to discuss this issue further should you have questions.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

Respectfully submitted:

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