

May 9, 2013

Joint Subcommittee on Transportation &
Economic Development
Oregon State Capitol Building
900 Court St NE
Salem, Oregon 97301



RE: SB 582 A – Relating to the State Building Code

Hon. Co-Chairs Johnson & Jenson; Members of the Subcommittee:

The Oregon Building Officials Association appreciates the work done by Senator Roblan and the Senate Committee on Rural Communities and Economic Development to bring stakeholders together on SB 582. Our Association has been grateful for the opportunity to share our concerns about the previous versions of this bill, and we have appreciated the assurances of the State Building Codes Division that the current bill language will not jeopardize the ability of local governments throughout the state to provide quality, coordinated development services.

Although lack of funding has been challenging for many building safety programs in rural and remote areas, Oregon's local building departments are doing a good job of protecting the public while delivering flexible and expedient customer service. It's important that we all keep working together to support the efforts of local building programs, as construction projects are able to proceed much more quickly and smoothly when coordinated at the local level.

Oregon building officials understand that public safety and economic vitality are not mutually exclusive concepts, and our Association welcomes the opportunity to discuss how local building departments can keep Oregon communities focused on a safe and vibrant future.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

Respectfully submitted:

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