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May 17, 2013

The Honorable Chris Garrett
Chair, House Committee on Rules
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE, H-283
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: House Bill 3528 - SUPPORT

Chair Garrett and Members of the Committee on Rules:

I am writing on behalf of PacifiCorp to express support for House Bill 3528. House Bill 3528 will exempt registered lobbyists from reporting to the Oregon Government Ethics Commission (OGEC) moneys spent on "lobbying" other registered lobbyists.

As a company which employs contract and in-house lobbyists, PacifiCorp is required to file quarterly lobbyist expenditure reports with the OGEC. Currently, lobbyist expenditure reports do not include the reporting of moneys spent by registered lobbyists on lobbying other registered lobbyists. Current reporting requirements include the reporting of expenses on elected officials as well as other expenses attributed to lobbying including incidentals such as parking fees, employee time spent on in-person lobbying, creating associated lobbying materials, and etcetera. The company believes that the current quarterly reporting requirements are sufficient in capturing lobby-related expenses that relate to a company or individual's attempt to influence the development of public policy.

PacifiCorp does not believe that there is a valid public policy reason for reporting expenses paid by registered lobbyists on other registered lobbyists. The intent behind the OGEC reporting requirements is to provide the public with a transparent and accurate accounting of expenses for the purposes of lobbying elected and government officials responsible for the public trust; one registered lobbyist paying for a soda for another registered lobbyist does not meet the spirit of protecting the public interest. House Bill 3528 will help ensure that reporting of lobbying expenses will remain an easily comprehensible report of expenses associated with lobbying elected officials.

Thank you for your consideration. If you should have questions, please contact me or our Salem representatives, Shawn Miller at shawn@millerpublicaffairs.com or (503) 55-7738 or Elizabeth Howe at elizabeth@howepa.com or (503) 910-3270.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott D. Bolton".

Scott Bolton