



Marion County OREGON

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March 1, 2013

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House Business and Labor Committee
Oregon State Capitol
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As Building Official for Marion County I have reviewed **HB 2698** and have taken a position in **support**. HB 2698 would eliminate the sunset provisions of the current specialized inspector training and certification program. Three of the county's inspectors have completed the specialized training programs and received specialized inspector certifications. The benefits realized by Marion County and by those who live and/or work in Marion County include:

- Increased efficiency of the county inspection program. One inspector can complete the inspection of projects that in the past required two or three different inspectors.
- In some instances customers that in the past would have had to remain on site for two or three different inspectors, now only have to coordinate access for a single inspector.
- Allows flexibility to design specialized certifications that more closely reflect the experience of inspectors.
- The training provided by the program has been tailored to the specific needs of inspectors working toward specialized certifications.

Marion County urges a Yes on HB 2698.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.