

Dear Representative Doherty:

Please vote YES for HB 4119. Our company employees 70 people in Portland, Eugene, Coos Bay and Bend. We have been in business since 1982. We work with public agencies including Oregon State Parks, Oregon University System, Department of Corrections, and many other and we support the Qualification Based Selection process when public agencies hire engineers.

- Qualification based selection, including direct appointment for smaller projects, is proven to lead to better outcomes in public procurement.
- Most local government follow this procurement methodology now. This bill will add consistency from agency to agency and from project to project.
- Contrary to lobbying by cities and counties, the cost of design is known prior to contract signing. The cost of the design for the project is negotiated after a full understanding of the scope of the project. Cost is known by all parties prior to signing a contract and is totally controlled by the contracting agency. If the contracting agency is not comfortable moving forward, direct appointment allows them to stop discussions with the selected design firm and select another firm. This is not a blank check process. The contracting agency controls the complete process.
- Direct appointment leads to the best use of public funds. Is best for small firms, emerging and minority and women owned firms .
- Quality design leads to quality construction and to the efficient multi-year life-cycle of any project. HB 4119 will ensure the best outcomes for public funds in Oregon.
- Direct appointment is the most efficient and timely procurement method.
- Thank you for your consideration.

Guy Neal, P.E.

President

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