



To the Senate Interim Committee on Rules and Executive Appointments

Re: Letter to Support the Appointment of Christopher Harder, Director of Oregon Business Development

Hearing at 2:00 PM; Room HR B; May 23, 2016

Dear Senate Interim Committee on Rules and Executive Appointments:

It is my pleasure to support the appointment of Christopher Harder for the position of Director of Oregon Business Development. Mr. Harder brings a wealth of experience, expertise, and integrity to this position having served admirably before with the Portland Development Commission.

In light of our organization's experience with Mr. Harder at the Portland Development Commission, we are fully confident that he will be a terrific Director of Business Oregon. He is the perfect person to build the Oregon economy through a variety of business economic development strategies that will enable Oregon to capture greater economic impacts from new and current businesses.

Our organization, the nonprofit Oregon Sports Authority, has been pleased to partner on projects with Mr. Harder in his role with the Portland Development Commission. We look forward to working with Mr. Harder again to build on the effective partnership we have had for more than a decade with Business Oregon to augment the Oregon economy through sports economic development.

Business Oregon has been instrumental to our organization's success, as we are having our most productive year for the state economy in our history. We would look forward to working with Mr. Harder to continue our productive partnership with Business Oregon.

Mr. Harder has all credentials and passion to be a most effective Director of Business Oregon. Please give his appointment nomination your highest consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Drew Mahalic".

Drew Mahalic
Executive Director
Oregon Sports Authority