



Date: February, 4<sup>th</sup> 2015

To: Senate Committee on Business and Transportation

Several years ago, the State Building Codes Division approached local government and contractors with a plan to implement a system of electronic building permit services. The permitting system is now in use by many cities and counties across Oregon that would not otherwise be able to afford an electronic permit system. As a user of this unique state and local government partnership, we strongly encourage the legislature to continue this program.

This program allows city and county governments to provide for electronic tracking and accounting of our building inspection programs and provide services on-line to our customers. The benefits of this program are twofold. The first is for the contractors; it gives them a centralized location for permitting for all participating jurisdictions, allowing them to apply for permits, pay and print approved plans, and request inspections, all without leaving their offices. The second benefit is to the jurisdiction; as a state maintained system, the local jurisdiction can spend its scarce IT resources on other needs. This is an example of a program that works and we want to continue this effort.

Thank you for your consideration.

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