



CHIP SHIELDS
STATE SENATOR
DISTRICT 22
N/NE PORTLAND
OREGON STATE LEGISLATURE

February 16, 2015

Chair Beyer and Members of the Senate Business and Transportation Committee:

I am testifying today in support of Senate Bill 17, a bill I drafted at the request of Sam Pardue, a successful entrepreneur and the CEO and founder of IndoWindows. Mr. Pardue is here today and can better explain the immediate need for the bill. I would like to draw your attention to a couple pieces of pertinent information, however:

- 1) We are working on an amendment to the bill that would significantly alter the concept. The amendment would keep the intent of the bill, which is to protect small businesses in this state by deterring predatory companies from stealing intellectual property. The amendment, however, would simplify the bill by taking out the language regarding the formation of a public corporation and a fund. Instead, the amendment will provide for an appropriation to DOJ of \$200,000 to devote FTE to an attorney to assist in protecting intellectual property rights. We are still working with LC on the amendment, and we will forward it to the committee as soon as we get it back.
- 2) Oregon's economy thrives on small businesses. This concept is about providing these businesses with a fair playing field, where they do not have to fear that their ideas and innovations will be stolen by companies with deeper pockets and large legal teams to fight claims. We need to encourage innovation and entrepreneurialism, and SB 17 is one step to making sure Oregon start-ups can prosper.

Thank you for your time and consideration of SB 17.

Sincerely,

Chip Shields
Oregon State Senator, District 22 (N/NE Portland)

