

**Curry County  
Board of Commissioners**

David Brock Smith,  
*Commissioner*

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February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Chair Edwards, Vice Chair Olsen & Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today in support of SB 320 on behalf of the residents of Curry County and the Curry County Board of Commissioners. Accompanying my testimony today is the Curry County Resolution Supporting SB 320 that reads... (Attached)

Curry County's rural economy is diverse like many counties throughout the State of Oregon and the ability to work with what you have is essential for survival. A recent example of this type of Economic Development was my work with the ODA and USDA late last year. With the help of the ODA, we were able to achieve a rule change on the issuance of a USDA Phyto-Sanitary Certificate on frozen cranberries, blueberries, strawberries and cherries. This change allows our agriculture producers of these products throughout not only Oregon, but Washington and Idaho, the ability to receive the necessary certification to export these products overseas to China and other countries that require the certification. Ninety nine percent of the cranberries grown in Oregon are produced within Curry and Coos Counties and the overall economic impact of these four products within the State is over \$2.8 million dollars. This change will have an enormous economic benefit for our agricultural producers in Curry County and throughout Oregon.

Although this is good news, Curry County's rural natural resource based and tourism driven economy is still hurting. With a seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of over 10.4 percent (Dec. '14) in comparison to the State of Oregon's 6.7 percent (Dec. '14), the continual decline of natural resource based employment and the lack of necessary funding to support basic services to our residents, there is little to no economic growth throughout the County. These problems are compounded by an aging population of retirees that live on fixed incomes. Like the Phyto-Sanitary change described above, SB 320 would allow the flexibility for residents of our Oregon Counties to produce a needed good while supplementing their income. My Board and I see this as a win-win for our residents and those throughout the State.

Chair Edwards, Vice Chair Olsen and Committee Members, I thank you again for the opportunity to speak with you today and I encourage your 'do pass' recommendation on SB 320. This legislation is a small step to help grow local economies and I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Brock Smith". The signature is fluid and includes a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

David Brock Smith, Commissioner  
Curry County Board of Commissioners

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CURRY, OREGON**

In the Matter of a Resolution )  
Supporting SB 320, "The Small )  
Home Business Bill" )

RESOLUTION NO. R20155

WHEREAS, the *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), 2014-2018, for Coos, Curry, and Douglas Counties, Oregon*, identifies the economic vision for the region to include value-added agriculture, employment, a successful small business base, and outstanding tourism products; and

WHEREAS, the objectives in the CEDS Plan call for all levels of government to work together to reduce regulatory requirements which can slow and stifle economic development opportunities and the need for fair permitting procedures;

WHEREAS, overly burdensome regulations limit small food business entrepreneurs in meeting the demand for low risk baked goods and confections; and

WHEREAS, proposed legislation, SB 320, would exempt small home businesses that produce low risk baked goods and confections from certain state licenses, food safety and sanitation regulations, while putting labeling standards in place ensuring the public the value-added product was produced in an uninspected kitchen.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF CURRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

In an effort to diversify the economy by adding value-added products, support small business, increase gross sales, and offer locally made tourism products, the Board of Commissioners hereby urges the Oregon Legislature to pass SB 320, and additionally encourages the other 35 counties in Oregon to support said legislation as well.

Dated this 4rd day of February, 2015.

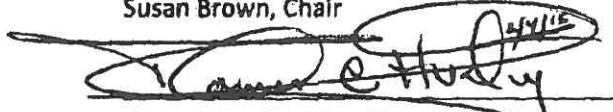
State of Oregon }  
County of Curry } SS  
I hereby certify that the within is a  
true copy of the original record on  
file in my office and custody.  
Dated: 2/17/2015  
Renee Kolen, Curry County Clerk

By: Becky Ross  
Deputy

BOARD OF CURRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Susan Brown, Chair

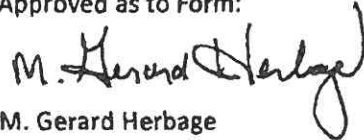


Thomas Huxley, Vice Chair



David Brock Smith, Commissioner

Approved as to Form:



M. Gerard Herbage  
Curry County Legal Counsel