



NORTHWEST AFFILIATE

NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION ALLIANCE II

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February 13, 2015

The Honorable Mark Hass, Chair
Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chairman Hass and Members of the Committee,

The Northwest National Construction Alliance is a partnership between the Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters and the International Union of Operating Engineers Locals 302, 612, and 701. In Oregon State alone we represent nearly 10,000 construction trade professional men and women. On behalf of those 10,000 Oregonians we write you today to ask that you support passage of Senate Bill 64.

Senate Bill 64 simply clarifies that Metro Council's charter is the source of authority for issuing revenue bonds to be repaid by visitor taxes. Voters granted Metro's home-rule charter in 1992, and SB 62 would merely fortify the intent of voters.

I encourage the Members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue to consider the positive economic impact that the Convention Center Hotel will have on local and state revenue, tourism, and local businesses, plus the real job creation for working families in Oregon. Building the Convention Center Hotel will create 2,000 jobs in the building and construction trades, and creates over 900 long-term jobs in the hospitality sector. Combined state and local tax revenue is expected to generate nearly \$10 million in new revenue.

Every delay starting construction on the Convention Center Hotel is costing jobs, tax revenue, and tourism dollars, which would greatly improve the local economy, and put more hard working Oregonians back to work. Therefore, I ask on behalf of the 10,000 women and men represented by the Northwest National Construction Alliance that you support swift passage of SB 64. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Doug Tweedy
President
Northwest National Construction Alliance

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