

Monday, March 16, 2015

**Written Testimony before the  
Senate Committee on Workforce  
Regarding Senate Bill 809**

Chair Dembrow, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee,

The Association of Oregon Counties is highly concerned about Senate Bill 809. The bill would impose numerous new burdens on local governments administering public works projects over \$1 million, at a time when many of our members are already in severe financial distress and simply trying to keep their heads above water.

If the Committee desires to pursue an apprenticeship bill this session, we would strongly encourage the Committee to look at Senate Bill 579 (House Bill 2929), which would not overly strain our already strained system. Short of that, we would respectfully ask the Committee to consider a number of amendments to Senate Bill 809, including:

- 1. Raising the threshold from \$1 million to at least \$5 million, as can be found in Senate Bill 579 and House Bill 2929.
- 2. Transferring the burden to the State to do all of the tracking and monitoring.
- 3. Exempting local government.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Senate Bill 809.

Sincerely,



Rob Bovett  
AOC Legal Counsel