



## OREGON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

200 SW Market Street, Suite L100 Portland, Oregon 97201  
Ph: 503-641-0990 Fax: 503-641-0959 oba@oba-online.org www.oba-online.org

---

March 20, 2015

Re: SIP/Gain Share program (SB 129)

Dear Senator Hass  
Chair Senate Revenue and Finance Committee  
Salem, Oregon

Oregon Business Association (OBA) strongly supports Senate Bill 129. The bill ensures the continued economic prosperity of our state by protecting Oregon's best economic development tool. At the same time, proposed changes will enhance benefits for Oregonians in communities statewide.

Oregon leans on cities and counties for economic development, relying on them to assume risks and pay some upfront costs for projects that ultimately deliver jobs needed to support the state's general fund. This is done primarily through the Strategic Investment Program (SIP), of which Gain Share plays a role.

The SIP has attracted and retained companies in Oregon that could have located anywhere in the world, including some of the state's top employers – Intel and Genentech in the Portland metro area, along with wind farms in rural Eastern Oregon and the Wauna paper mill near the coast – providing well-paying jobs that benefit all Oregonians and our state budget.

Attracting investment is critical to our ability to do business. Growth at the companies participating in the program spawns additional businesses and investments in existing companies, such as the cluster of high-tech businesses that work with Intel, and manufacturers of products related to wind energy facilities elsewhere in the state. A study by ECONorthwest recently found that for every job created by an investment at Intel, which located here because of this program, three more jobs are created elsewhere in our state as a result of Intel's growth.

The program's economic impact also supports funding for K-12 schools statewide. Intel's investment in Oregon generates \$650 million in tax revenue – enough to supply half of the education funding increase proposed in the co-chairs' budget for the biennium. Changes proposed under SB 129 would funnel even more money to public schools in Oregon. They would also increase resources available for economic development in rural Oregon.

We respectfully request that you support SB 129. We need it to support economic development that benefits for all Oregonians.

Sincerely,

Ryan Deckert  
OBA President