



Apr. 3, 2015

Honorable Lee Beyer, Chair
Senate Committee on Business and Transportation
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Or 97301

RE: SB 675 removes requirement that bidder or proposer for public contract demonstrate responsibility by submitting signed affidavit

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

I urge you to support Senate Bill 675 which corrects requirements recently passed to remove the burdensome affidavit requirement. The correction this bill presents is an improvement to the public contracting system.

In 2014, the City of Beaverton started incorporating this requirement and have included it in one solicitation for personal services contracts since this provision went into effect. We created our own affidavit form. In the one solicitation, we received six responses and two (33%) did not provide the affidavit requirement and were thus deemed to be non-responsive to the solicitation. Demanding this affidavit requirement decreased the pool of responsive bidders and thus decreased competition amongst similarly competent firms.

As the current provision states, we also believe construction contracts covered in Section C of Chapter 279 will become subject to the affidavit requirement which will further reduce competition amounts similarly to competent firms.

Generally, the current provision places an undue burden for proposal responders to certify with 100% certainty that their firm has complied with all tax laws of the State of Oregon or a political subdivision of this state. SB 675 would correct this undue burden.

I respectfully urge you to pass SB 675.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patrick F. O'Claire". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patrick O'Claire
Finance Director