



**Oregon State
Building and Construction
Trades Council
AFL-CIO**



April 8, 2015

Dear Chair Hoyle and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to urge your support for SB 927. The Oregon Convention Center Hotel is an excellent opportunity to create jobs in Oregon and boost our region's economy.

The Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council represents approximately 25,000 construction workers in 21 member unions that are highly skilled in a wide array of crafts. The jobs this project would create are important for our members. We still have far too many members that are unemployed or underemployed. Projects like this will help us to provide important training opportunities for apprentices, will help our members sustain family health insurance and keep our defined benefit pension plans solvent while supporting our families.

Working Oregonians, whether in the construction industry, the hospitality industry, or elsewhere, depend on family wage jobs. The Oregon Convention Center Hotel would put our members to work by creating and sustaining approximately 2,000 construction jobs throughout the life of the project. The construction alone will be a boon for our economy and the economic impact of the over 900 sustained hospitality jobs and the tourist dollars that will be spent in our state will have long-term positive effects on our economy.

On behalf of the approximately 25,000 members of the Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council, I urge you to support SB 927 and investment in Oregon's workforce, in Oregon's tourism industry, and in our state's future economic prosperity.

Sincerely,

John Mohlis
Executive Secretary
Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council