



House Business and Labor Committee
Wednesday, April 22nd, 2015

SB 35A

Chair Holvey, members of the Committee: Thank you and I appreciate you holding the hearing on SB 35A. For the record, I am State Representative Betty Komp, representing House District 22, Woodburn, Gervais and North Salem.

1. It is increasingly important for small, independent telecommunications cooperatives to work collaboratively to achieve some economies of scale. The telecom firms they compete with such as Comcast, AT&T, etc. already have these economies of scale.
2. Gervais Telephone Cooperative currently works closely with neighboring Cooperatives such as St. Paul Telephone and Monitor Telephone. While there is absolutely no talk of merging at the moment, if that situation ever occurs SB 35A, would facilitate that process.
3. I know that Gervais Telephone serves rural schools in my district. If passed, SB 35A might at some future point help ensure that these small schools have a local telecommunications provider to work with.

Thank you.