



To: Chair Vega Pederson, Members of the House Energy & Environment Committee  
From: Tracy Rutten, League of Oregon Cities  
Date: May 5, 2015  
Re: Testimony in Support of SB 263-A

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On behalf of Oregon's 242 cities, we thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 263-A.

The League has been involved and participated directly throughout the DEQ-led workgroup process to update Oregon's materials management plan and related statutes. We have appreciated efforts by the Department of Environmental Quality to solicit feedback from our members, and to address concerns that we have shared with them throughout this process. The Department has also had many one-on-one discussions with individual cities who have had questions or expressed concerns over the proposed measures.

Undoubtedly, these two bills will impact cities across the state and the ratepayers that live in those cities and throughout the state. The extent of that impact varies based on the size of city, where they are located, and partnerships they may have created with other governments or entities for the provision of solid waste and recycling services. We feel that the proposal, as reflected in the A-Engrossed version of the bill, is the result of careful compromise between DEQ and a variety of stakeholders. In addition, we feel that it is an important step in updating goals for recovery and adopting associated actions for achieving those goals.

Finally, we greatly appreciate amendments to the bill on the Senate side which will provide cities with the opportunity to be more involved in the process of determining voluntary recovery goals for their wastesheds. This is an improvement over current practices for goal setting as it will allow for city participation on issues that directly impact city government and the citizens they represent.

We encourage your support for SB 263-A and thank you for your consideration.