

MADRAS-JEFFERSON COUNTY

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & Economic Development

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May 7, 2015

House Committee on Rural Communities, Land Use and Water
900 Court St NE. Room 347
Salem, OR 97301

RE: **SB534 Support** option of a city extending sewer services to its airport

Chair Clem and Committee Representatives,

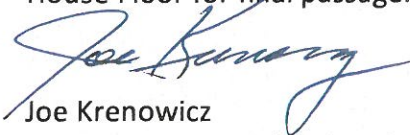
Madras-Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce, representing members and non-members of the business community, request your passage of SB534. This action would allow the City of Madras to meet an urgent need for an expansion of a long term international business tenant resulting in an employment increase of approximately 50 jobs.

The Madras location is their primary choice and the alternative will be locating at their European headquarters, resulting in a loss to our economically challenged community as well to Oregon. The opportunity to serve this company, which will be built right next to the city wastewater plant, follows strong common sense and meets the long established planning of this industrial and aviation property owned by the City of Madras.

City of Madras, Jefferson County and Oregon residents have public dollars that have been expended over decades in the infrastructure of this site for the purpose of potential economic growth, which in this case factors into high paying positions we have been pursuing. This development will have no environmental impact if served by sewer. The surrounding land is very well protected by Oregon Land Use regulations supported by the City of Madras and Jefferson County.

Rural Communities are typically hit hard in a downturn and very challenged with slow recovery. An increase in well paying full time jobs, an increase in the tax base and the potential to increase roof tops will enhance the financial health and potential expansions of our downtown businesses. This permeates into supporting local services, events and community organizations.

The Chamber in Madras respectfully requests your passage of SB534 and the bill be sent to the House Floor for final passage.



Joe Krenowicz
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