

JEANNE P. ATKINS  
SECRETARY OF STATE

ROBERT TAYLOR  
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE



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Senate Committee on Rules  
SB 55 and the -5 Amendments  
May 12, 2015

Testimony of Oregon Secretary of State Jeanne P. Atkins

Chair Rosenbaum and Members of the Committee:

I am pleased to support the concepts in SB 55 and the -5 amendments that serve to increase the effectiveness of the state's debt collection practices. However, some provisions in the introduced bill and the -5 amendments are written in a way that would compromise the constitutional independence of the Secretary of State (SOS). Specifically, certain provisions condition action by SOS on the approval of Department of Administrative Services (DAS), subject SOS to DAS rules and policymaking, and impose DAS training and fees on SOS. I am confident that the intent of the bill can be effectuated with amendments added to maintain the Secretary of State's historic constitutional independence. I would welcome the opportunity to work with the Senate Committee on Rules or the committee to which SB 55 is next referred to craft such amendments to SB 55.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeanne P. Atkins".

Jeanne P. Atkins  
Oregon Secretary of State