



May 7, 2015

Honorable Shemia Fagan, Chair
House Committee on Consumer Protection and Government Effectiveness
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Or 97301

RE: SB 675 removes requirement that bidder or proposer for public contract demonstrate responsibility by submitting signed affidavit

Dear Chair Fagan and Members of the Consumer Protection and Government Effectiveness Committee:

I urge you to support Senate Bill 675 with its amendments which corrects requirements recently passed to remove the burdensome affidavit requirement. The bill presents an improvement to the public contracting system.

Since the provision went into effect, the City of Beaverton has included it in one solicitation for personal services contracts. We created our own affidavit form. We received six responses and two did not provide the affidavit requirement. The two were deemed to be non-responsive to the solicitation. An affidavit requires notarization and demanding this requirement makes bidding or proposing on the city's contracting services more complex for vendors. The requirement decreased the pool of responsive bidders and decreased competition amongst similarly competent firms.

Generally, the current provision places an encumbrance for proposal responders to certify with 100% certainty that their firm has complied with all tax laws of the State of Oregon or a political subdivision of this state. SB 675 would make a simpler and more efficient process for vendors and public agencies alike.

I urge a "yes" vote on SB 675. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patrick F. O'Claire". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patrick O'Claire
Finance Director