

February 22, 2016

Senator Lee Beyer, Chair Senate Committee on Business and Transportation 900 Court Street NE Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: HB 4036A and -41 amendment

Dear Chair Beyer and Members of the Committee:

Members of the Oregon Municipal Electric Utilities Association (OMEU) appreciate the opportunity to provide comment on HB 4036A and the -41 amendment.

OMEU – Eleven of Oregon's municipally owned and operated electric utilities joined to form OMEU via an intergovernmental agreement authorized under ORS 190. OMEU supports the collective interests of its members and their customer owners at the state legislature, state agencies, various trade associations and the Bonneville Power Association (BPA). A twelfth municipally owned electric utility in Oregon, the Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB), maintains independent representation.

HB 4036A – As a result of the legislative process through the House of Representatives, HB4036A includes an amendment that protects existing city electric utilities when they perform annexations, so OMEU is now neutral on HB 4036A.

HB 4036A and -41 Amendment – Considering the -41 amendment to HB 4036A, OMEU appreciates the -41 amendments carrying forward those same annexation protections for existing city electric utilities. Given the short period of time available, OMEU currently has no position on the -41 amendment to HB 4036A.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at the phone or email indicated below with any questions.

Sincerely,

Beth Vargas Duncan Executive Director

Beth Verges Diewan

1201 COURT ST. NE, SUITE 102 • SALEM, OREGON 97301 • 971-600-6976 • bvargasduncan@omeu.org