

From: Robert Russell
To: [JWMNR Exhibits](#)
Cc: [Jana Jarvis](#); [Jason M Barber](#)
Subject: Oregon Department of Agriculture Budget Request
Date: Sunday, February 26, 2017 2:31:03 PM

Dear members of the Natural Resources Subcommittee of Ways and Means,

First, let me apologize for not being available when you took public testimony on the Oregon Department of Agriculture's budget on 2/23/17.. When you held that particular hearing, we had over 100 of our members in the Capitol visiting with legislators, attending hearings and otherwise learning about their state government. The demand for getting folks from point A to point B was certainly greater than anticipated. Having said that, I wanted to make sure that you hear from the trucking industry about the importance of ODA's budget to our industry.

We depend on ODA's Jason Barber, Program Area Director, Internal Services and Consumer Protection, and his team to ensure that the fuels we purchase in Oregon meet the appropriate quality standards and that the devices dispensing the fuels measure the quantities accurately. Since fuel is either the largest or second largest expense a trucking company incurs, depending on the price of fuel at any given time, the work of Jason and his staff is critical to the industry.

Our experience is that not only do Jason and his staff do their work very well, they are also eager to help us when we need it. This particular group of state employees is always very professional and a credit to state government. The members of the Oregon Trucking Associations would urge the committee to fully fund the budget request for the Internal Services and Consumer Protection Division of the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

Thank you for your consideration,

Bob Russell
Vice President Government Affairs
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