



**Association of Professional Landscape Designers®
Oregon Chapter**

Senate Committee on Business and Transportation
State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

March 5, 2017

RE: Testimony in opposition to SB 474, Eliminates continuing education requirements for landscape construction professionals

Chairman Beyer and committee members:

I serve as Legislative Advocate for APLD Oregon. The Association of Professional Landscape Designers is an international trade organization dedicated to maintaining excellence in standards of practice in the professional landscape design field. Our APLD Certification program is recognized as setting the national standard for professionalism and quality. APLD Oregon Chapter was formally organized in 2003, and is made up of professional landscape designers throughout the state.

APLD Oregon is opposed to SB 474, which would eliminate the requirement of landscape construction professionals to obtain continuing education credits to renew their license with the state.

APLD Oregon is committed to providing our own members as well as other landscape professionals with continuing education opportunities, and is a requirement of membership with APLD. We firmly believe it is essential for landscape construction professionals to be current with the latest technology and practices in their field. Familiarity with the latest in water saving irrigation technology, wildlife friendly and energy efficient LED lighting, as well as low impact development practices in the landscape including stormwater management and infrastructure are essential to assure projects will be constructed properly and with the technical expertise and sensitivity to natural resources Oregon homeowners expect and deserve.

I commend the Oregon Landscape Contractors Board for already responding to the call of licensees to lessen the burden of Continuing Education Hours by reducing the number of hours needed by construction professionals with more than 6 years experience.

Thank you for the opportunity to present the views of APLD at this hearing.

Sincerely,

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