



March 15, 2017

Senator Jackie Winters and Representative Duane Stark
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Subcommittee on Public Safety
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Judicial Department Budget, HB 5013

Dear Co-Chair Winters, Co-Chair Stark and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of NIKE, Inc., thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the importance of adequate funding for a well-functioning court system in regards to HB 5013, which appropriates funds to the Judicial Department.

NIKE's global headquarters are based in Washington County, Oregon. NIKE's roots run deep in Oregon. The company was founded on a handshake, \$500 and mutual trust between legendary University of Oregon track coach Bill Bowerman and Phil Knight, a talented runner for Bowerman's track program in Eugene. From that handshake, NIKE has grown into the world's leading designer, marketer and distributor of authentic athletic footwear, apparel, equipment and accessories for a wide variety of sports and fitness activities, employing thousands of Oregonians.

As NIKE has communicated in the past, a well-functioning court system is indispensable for law enforcement, individuals and families in crisis. But the courts are also important for business and the State's economy. State courts are critical to protecting economic rights, in addition to individual rights.

Because of the proficiency of the Oregon courts, a majority of NIKE's commercial contracts have Oregon choice of law and venue provisions. In some commercial contract disputes, the monetary stakes are high; at times, continued business operations and significant dollars are at issue. In other cases, an immediate temporary restraining order may be requested because the damage caused by delay would be irreparable and cannot be measured in dollars.

These are not imagined "what ifs" but realities that arise for Oregon businesses and Oregonians. A relevant example of both the individual and the business interests arise in the form of the enforcement

of non-competition agreements. Such disputes require the court to issue a decision within days that balances the protection of proprietary business interests and an individual's right to work.

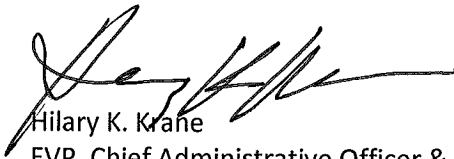
NIKE chooses to have our disputes settled in Oregon courts because we know we have in the past received an efficient well-reasoned resolution to legal issues. The Oregon courts provide a collegial and professional atmosphere that has a low tolerance for lawyer gamesmanship and unprofessional conduct.

We are all better served when matters receive timely attention, when judges have necessary time to read and comprehend the arguments and when courts can afford to pay to recruit and retain lawyers interested in public service. When business and individuals can rely on the courts to adhere to the rule of law, the Oregon business community, the legal community, the Oregon economy and individual Oregonians all benefit.

NIKE values a judicial branch budget that enables a continued well-functioning and efficient judiciary as it is critical to the business community, the economy and the State.

Again, thank you for allowing NIKE the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hilary K. Krane', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hilary K. Krane
EVP, Chief Administrative Officer & General Counsel