2670 Testimony

Members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to testify today on House Bill 2670. I will do my best to be brief. This is a simple but important bill, requiring that state contractors and subcontractors be able to demonstrate that they are in compliance with federal worker protections.

It is my hope that this bill will not be controversial. The premise is simply that, should a contractor violate federal law, the state has a right to know that, and to consider that information when hiring a contractor. If a contractor wants to receive taxpayer dollars, it seems only fair that those dollars go to businesses that are behaving ethically.

The bill also only applies to contracts with a value that exceeds \$100 thousand, so smaller projects would not be subject to undue burdens. This bill targets larger projects, and by extension larger firms, who have the means to insure that their workers are treated with dignity and respect.

Colleagues, at the federal level, worker protections are at serious risk. Therefore, it must fall to the states to ensure that working Oregonians are receiving the protections

they deserve when they work with a contractor receiving state dollars. Let us continue to be a leader in the nation when it comes to valuing our workforce. Thank you, and I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.