



## Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

**2016 - 2017  
PNWER Executive  
Committee\***

March 24, 2017

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Northwest Gas  
Association  
Private Sector Co-Chair

\*Partial listing

The Honorable Arnie Roblan  
Senator  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court St. NE, S-417  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Senator Roblan,

On behalf of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER), I offer PNWER's strong support for the "Relating to professional engineer registration" legislation introduced in the Oregon State Senate (Senate Bill 885).

This bill would provide the State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying the option to waive the fundamentals of engineering examination and practical engineer's requirements for an applicant for Oregon State license registration if the applicant has, for at least eight years prior to the date of the application and if the individual has held a registration or license to practice professional engineering in another state, a territory or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia or a foreign country.

The PNWER Workforce Development Working group has been actively engaged in encouraging each PNWER Jurisdiction to adopt similar legislation that would allow reciprocal licensing acknowledgement of professional engineers that meet the necessary requirements. The states and provinces that already have this legislation provide their professional engineers increased mobility and access to markets.

This proposed legislation will lead to reciprocal agreements in Canadian jurisdictions that will allow access and wider markets for Oregon professional engineers. Furthermore, this legislation will improve regional resilience by easing the mobility of professional engineers in response to impacted areas, particularly after an earthquake or major disaster. For 15 years PNWER's executive board has supported and approved action items and resolutions in support of professional reciprocal license agreements between the PNWER jurisdictions. As statutory members of PNWER, Oregon's representatives have been supportive of these action items and resolutions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Matt Morrison  
Chief Executive Officer  
PNWER