



**GINNY BURDICK
SENATE MAJORITY LEADER**

DATE: April 3, 2017

TO: Honorable Senator Johnson, Co-Chair
Honorable Representative Gomberg, Co-Chair
Joint Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

FROM: Senate Majority Leader Ginny Burdick

SUBJECT: OLCC Budget

Co-Chairs Johnson, Gomberg, and Members of the committee, for the record, my name is Ginny Burdick. I serve as the State Senator for District 18, which includes the city of Tigard and portions of west Portland.

I'm here today to discuss House Bill 5019. This bill sets the maximum limits for expenses paid from fees and other revenues collected by Oregon Liquor Control Commission, excluding lottery and federal funds. Fee revenues will support the vital function of OLCC, including administrative expenses, agents' compensation, and costs associated with regulating the recreational marijuana industry.

In the last biennium, the OLCC took on the task of implementing the recreational marijuana program and adapting to legislative changes. In that time, the OLCC has developed and implemented an online application system, a cannabis tracking system, and licensed over 1,200 new businesses throughout Oregon.

We are highly aware of the unprecedented number of applications. Not having the staff to license and renew these businesses is very concerning, especially when it affects industry members who would like to be legal and licensed in a timely fashion.

I strongly urge your support for the OLCC proposed budget.

