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## **Oregon Senate Bill 836**

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Oregon Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources**

April 5, 2017

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the member companies of TechNet, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 836. My organization represents a diverse set of technology companies with more two million employees in the fields of information technology, e-commerce, advanced energy, biotechnology, venture capital, and finance. We are strong proponents of public policy initiatives that promote continued innovation, economic growth and job creation.

Key to achieving these goals is a regulatory climate that is practical, based on a strong scientific foundation and is implemented in a consistent fashion.

SB 836 is important to the technology industry because it helps put back on track a regulatory program that is:

- Overly broad;
- Lacks clarity for those entities subject to its reporting requirements, and;
- Is inconsistent with similar regulatory programs around the country, including Washington State.

The Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) implementing regulations impose reporting requirements unique to Oregon, creating a costly and unnecessary burden. SB 836 seeks to create a more uniform regulatory program by exempting "inaccessible components" from the reporting requirements. This would align Oregon's law with similar laws in Washington, Maine and Vermont without compromising product safety. International regulations and federal laws acknowledge that these "inaccessible components" pose little to know exposure risk.

The bill would also help bring some much needed clarity and certainty to OHA's implementation efforts. To date, manufacturers have not received guidance from the state on how to comply with the law, when the state's reporting database will be operational, or the amount companies may have to pay for OHA to review reporting exemption requests.

Furthermore, it has become clear that the cost to implement the original law is much higher than what was originally estimated. SB 836 establishes a reasonable

and certain fee provision and creates much needed legislative oversight so that these implementation and cost issues can be adequately reviewed.

SB 836 provides for regulatory certainty that is needed to foster continued innovation and economic growth. For these reasons, TechNet urges you to support SB 836.