

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2907
Wednesday, April 5, 2017
House Committee on Business and Labor

I am Doris Penwell, representing Association of Oregon Counties, speaking in support of HB 2907.

The Association and its member counties have had a long association with the difficulties of building codes enforcement, and particularly the ability to management inspection services with appropriate expertise and efficiencies. Particularly, in some smaller populated counties, with limited personnel to perform services, it is important that we have available to us the range of options for “hiring” inspection of projects. In these particular counties, the hiring of an employee cannot be justified if the workload is not full; but at the same time, getting inspections done for a project is very important.

We are of course always concerned that if the inspector is on contract, or appointed as specified in the bill, that they have expertise, training, and adequate oversight by the county. We would pledge to work within the building codes law to be assured that system is in place.

We are pleased to join others in support of this approach to clarifying the definition of “specialized building inspector”, and the inspector’s relationship with the jurisdiction that has appointed them for inspector services.

