



May 21, 2017

Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on General Government
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

To: The Honorable Senator James Manning Jr., Co-Chair and the Honorable
Representative Greg Smith, Co-Chair

Re: PacStar support for SB 90

Pacific Star Communications, Inc. (PacStar) designs, develops and manufactures equipment and software used by US Warfighters for conducting mission critical (including classified) communications at home and on the battlefield, and we regularly deal with information security challenges. As a small but fast growing defense contractor headquartered in Oregon, we strongly support the passing of SB 90 because of the positive impact potential is has not only for our company, but for state government, the entire business community, the educational system, and citizens of the state.

Due to our deep expertise in information security, we have a keen appreciation for the challenges of securing information systems for both large organizations and small organizations. For large organizations such as the State of Oregon, creating a unified and coordinated central organization for information security is not a luxury, but paramount to defending against the ever-increasing attacks on the State's systems. This component of SB 90 is simply not optional, it's common sense. Because of the scarcity of security expertise, as well as the state's ability to share infrastructure across departments, SB 90 is the fiscally responsible method to ensure the state develops a sound security posture.

We believe the Cyber Center of Excellence (CCoE), creating a public-private partnership, is required to meet the growing needs of all businesses in Oregon, and has the potential to address a number of unmet needs. These needs include a critical lack of trained information security professionals that impacts both small and large Oregon business' ability to secure their systems. We've experienced first-hand how hard it is to find and recruit staff to help us meet our information security needs, and in many cases we've resorted to searching nationwide for talent. The CCoE has the potential to boost workforce development, benefiting

businesses, the university system, and providing opportunities students to enter a grown 21st century career.

Addressing this need also has the potential benefit of economic development by growing the information security *industry* in Oregon. PacStar is part of an information security industry in Oregon that includes headquarters and engineering offices from numerous information security, software and hardware security companies. Bolstering the resources and reputation of Oregon as an information security cluster has the potential to grow jobs, capture our fair share of increasing Federal cyber expenditures, attract entrepreneurs and grow existing companies in our industry. The CCoE can be an important part of catalyzing this growth.

For all of the above reasons, PacStar supports SB 90 as presently drafted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peggy J. Miler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Peggy" and last name "Miler" clearly legible.

Peggy J. Miler
Chief Executive Officer
15055 SW Sequoia Parkway, Suite 100
Portland, OR 97224