



STATE OF OREGON
OFFICE OF THE STATE TREASURER

900 COURT STREET NE, ROOM 159
SALEM, OREGON 97301

Joint Committee On Ways and Means SubCommittee On Public Safety
Co-Chair Jackie Winters
Co-Chair Duane Stark
Members of the Committee

June 28, 2017

Dear Co-Chairs Winters and Stark, and members of the Joint Committee On Ways and Means SubCommittee On Public Safety:

I would like to express my support for House Bill 2687 and encourage support from the committee. We support the concepts in the bill and believe it moves our state's emergency preparedness in the right direction.

Over the past several years, Oregon State Treasury staff worked with Representative Evans to come up with a creative, low cost way for the state to help finance needed emergency equipment. Many of Oregon's communities are at high risk for seismic events and other natural disasters.

The legislation envisions using Article XI-Q bonds for this purpose; while the state will continue to own the emergency equipment for the life of the bonds, the financed equipment will be strategically deployed and managed by public safety and emergency officials in jurisdictions around the state. At the end of the "lease" term, communities will be able to take over ownership of emergency equipment.

I appreciate your consideration of the bill, and your willingness to address emergency preparedness.

Sincerely,

Tobias Read