



IDAHO-OREGON FRUIT AND VEGETABLE ASSOCIATION

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June 20, 2017

Senator Lee Beyer
Representative Caddy McKeown
Joint Transportation Preservation and Modernization Committee
900 Court Street NE, S-411
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Senator Beyer and Representative McKeown:

The Idaho-Oregon Fruit & Vegetable Association (IOFVASN) represents approximately 32 vegetable and fruit packinghouses in Idaho and Eastern Oregon. It was formed primarily to give service to these companies in matters pertaining to transportation and other relative industry problems.

The IOFVASN fully supports HB 2017, which is included in the 2017 Transportation Package. There is a great need for a Treasure Valley Intermodal Facility in Malheur County. Currently, Idaho and Eastern Oregon provides over one billion pounds of produce annually throughout the United States and across the globe. It is necessary for this area to move product easily and efficiently throughout the United States, as we are in direct competition with other growing regions that already have this capability. The trucking industry has changed and we foresee many challenges in that traditional route of transportation, including drivers aging out of the industry and high turnover rates in new drivers – as well as hours of service federal safety regulations and fuel/maintenance cost increases.

An Intermodal Facility would be of great benefit to streamlining the transportation issues in this agricultural area and would allow the growers and shippers to continue to send their crop to market quickly and effectively. This project would attract potential businesses to grow Malheur County and the State of Oregon.

We respectfully request that the Joint Transportation Preservation and Modernization Committee consider our needs when reviewing the Treasure Valley Intermodal Facility.

Sincerely,

Candi Fitch
Executive Director

cc: IOFVASN Board of Directors