



## CITY OF BEND

February 13, 2017

Senate Committee on Workforce  
Senator Kathleen Taylor, Chair  
Senator Tim Knopp, Vice-Chair  
900 Court Street NE, Room 453  
Salem, Oregon 97301

**RE: Support for PERS Reform Legislation**

Chair Taylor, Vice-Chair Knopp, and Members of the Committee:

The City of Bend is encouraged that PERS reform appears set to receive significant attention in your committee this session. Steadily increasing PERS rates are dramatically impacting Bend's budget. Without reform, our ability to provide services needed by our residents, including police and fire protection and street maintenance, will become increasingly impacted.

We understand that there are both legal and political hurdles to reform. However, you have a number of bills before you including SB 559 and 560 that include already vetted concepts that deserve serious consideration. We'd urge you to continue to vet and ultimately support fair-minded reforms that will both pass constitutional muster and save the State of Oregon and its local governments many, many millions of dollars.

Please let us know how we can support your efforts to seek out proposals that will accomplish these goals. We are appreciative of the work you and thank you for this opportunity to provide input on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Eric King  
*City Manager*

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