



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

555 Liberty St. SE / Room 305 • Salem, OR 97301-3503 • (503) 588-6173 • (503) TTY 588-6353 • (503) Fax 588-6005

February 14, 2017

**Chair Paul Holvey**  
**Vice-Chair Greg Barreto**  
**House Committee on Business and Labor**  
**Oregon State Capitol**  
**900 Court Street NE**  
**Salem, Oregon 97301**

**Testimony of the City of Salem in Opposition of House Bill 2168**

Dear Chair Paul Holvey, Vice-Chair Greg Barreto, and Members of the Committee,

The City of Salem opposes HB 2168, which would essentially require cities to provide inspectors with all of the equipment needed for specialty code inspections. The City of Salem inspects thousands of building projects each year that range in size, scope, and scale, and the City does not own all of the equipment necessary for every type of inspection. Instead, the City relies on contractors to provide specialty equipment such as lifts and long ladders for some inspections, and this has proved to be efficient and effective.

If passed, HB 2168 would create a significant financial burden on the City by requiring it to essentially purchase, store, and maintain equipment for every specialty inspection its employees performed. In addition, the City of Salem generally opposes legislation that creates unfunded state mandates.

The City of Salem urges you to oppose HB 2168.

Sincerely,

Glenn Gross  
Community Development Director

cc: Steve Powers, City Manager  
Kacey Duncan, Deputy City Manager