



February 1, 2018

Honorable Phil Barnhart
Chair, House Committee on Revenue
900 Court St. NE., H-279
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 4069

Dear Chair Barnhart and Members of the Committee:

Please accept this letter of support for HB 4069. Lane County has long been a supporter of economic development efforts for our region and the state. The only dedicated funding provided to the County for these important efforts comes from video lottery revenue dedicated to economic development. **Full funding of county economic development programs is of critical importance to our region and I urge support of this bill.**

County economic development funding has assisted in a variety of necessary projects for our region. County staff have worked extensively to assist local communities with needed infrastructure development and traded sector economic development efforts and supporting local businesses in their efforts to grow and thrive in our region. Further, Lane County has placed an emphasis on rural economic development and assisting communities throughout the region with priority projects to enhance local economies. All of these projects, and more, are completed with the video lottery funding provided to Lane County that is dedicated to economic development.

If it wasn't for Lane County's dollars to Oregon RAIN last fiscal year, we wouldn't have been able to reach out to entrepreneurs and innovators in Oakridge, Westfir, Lowell, Dexter and Florence. Having the County onboard to continuing to support rural entrepreneurship is key to sustaining a thriving innovation economy in our County – and creating living wage jobs.

We kindly ask for your support of HB 4069 and **the full funding** of video lottery dollars to county's for economic development purposes.

Thank you for your consideration

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Caroline Cummings".

Caroline Cummings
Venture Catalyst, Oregon RAIN
caroline@oregonrain.org | 541-968-2982