



February 2, 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 been a fantastic partner in supporting the growth of the regions emerging tech sector. 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 funds have supported staff and projects including Lane County's 'middle mile' internet connection. The positive outcomes from that investment in internet infrastructure cannot be overstated. They have helped lower the price of high speed internet from 50% - 80% in just one year, while at the same time increasing speeds by 1000%. These benefits of their investment are not only bridging the digital divide for local schools, they have directly helped more than 145 businesses grow and attracted new firms to the area.

County economic development funds have also supported successful tech business recruitment efforts. This past Fall, their efforts brought hot new tech startup Nulia to the region. Nulia planted roots here and their very first hire in Eugene was a recently unemployed local professional.

We work hard each day to expand economic development in our local and regional economies to help improve opportunities for all of our residents. We kindly ask 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,

*Matt Sayre*

Matt Sayre  
VP, Technology Association of Oregon