



City of Oakridge
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February 1, 2018

Re: HB 4069

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

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.

Specifically, Lane County economic development funds have supported the City of Oakridge by allowing the City to install a building sprinkler system that was required for a business that located onto the Oakridge Industrial Park. Additionally the county's assistance was instrumental in providing funds to install three phase power for a small mill at the Oakridge Industrial Park. They are also currently working

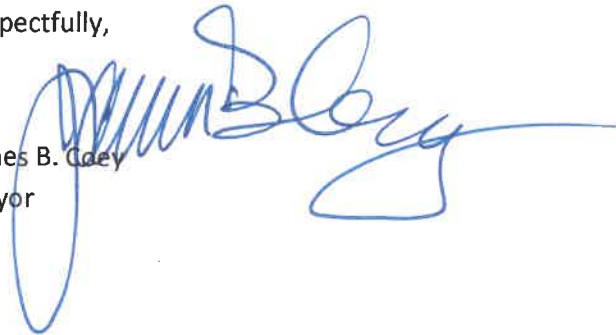
with a local Oakridge business that is working towards providing dry firewood to the Oakridge Westfir community. This aligns with the efforts that the City of Oakridge is pursuing in mitigating wood heat smoke and improving air quality for the residents. Their staff is well versed with the intricacies of economic development. Without the county's help it makes it extremely difficult to guide and assist new businesses.

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,

James B. Coey
Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'James B. Coey', is written over the printed name. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.