

February 9, 2018

Representative Paul Holvey, Chair
House Committee on Business and Labor
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

As a citizen of Linn County, an employee of a private inspection company (NWCP), the building official for various jurisdictions, inspector for dozens of other jurisdictions, and an enforcer of the code, building inspector and plans reviewer for almost 20 years, during which time I have acquired 34 certifications, I would like to make two requests of HB 4086.

As far as the Specialized Plumber and Electrical Inspection section, I support HB 4086 in letting all the certified inspectors to perform the inspections requested. I am a certified Commercial Plumbing Inspector and Plumbing Plans Examiner. Up until the past New Year, I had three co-inspectors who were certified as a Specialized Plumbing Inspectors. These inspectors had taken the course, taken the tests, and passed the course to become SPIs. All was fine up to this New Year, when those private inspectors had their SPI certifications taken away. These three inspectors took the same classes, took the same test, and inspect the same buildings as other inspectors. The proposed amended legislation allows jurisdictions to contract with certified third-party building inspectors that saves public resources and time, therefore, I support this portion of HB 4086.

As far as the section which states "all cities must employ their own Building Official...", I request this section be deleted. I am very unclear as to why this is even part of HB 4086 and what the intent of this section is. I have taken the Building Official tests from the State and thru the ICC, I have also taken the Orientation Building Official class requested by the BCD last year. My company performs the exact way as the municipals, counties, and State inspectors. The current law arbitrarily sets a double standard for individuals employed by a jurisdiction and those providing the identical service to a local government through a contract. Many jurisdictions cannot afford to hire full-time publicly employed Building Officials and/or Inspectors. I do not support the language regarding the Building Official in HB 4086.

Yours Truly,



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