



February 18, 2019

Representative John Lively, Chair
House Committee on Economic Development
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for the Oregon Innovation Council (Oregon InC)

Dear Chair Lively, Vice-Chair Bonham, Vice-Chair Fahey and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of the Oregon Innovation Council (Oregon InC) programs administered by the Innovation & Entrepreneurship (I&E) division of the Oregon Business Development Department. Oregon InC provides critical funding for early-stage companies trying to commercialize technology and create the next generation of Oregon businesses. Funding for businesses at this stage is very difficult to find, and Oregon InC's programs help fill these gaps.

My company, Madorra Inc. is an early-stage medical device company based in Portland, OR. We are currently client companies at the Oregon Bioscience Incubator (OBI), an Oregon InC program, and we have been residents there for the past 2.5 years. We are incredibly lucky to be apart of this supportive environment for early-stage companies, and I can guarantee that our company would not be as successful as we are today with out the support that the OBI and its community provides.

Oregon InC's programs help ensure that Oregon's entrepreneurs are not at a disadvantage compared to their peers in other states that have similar types of support programs. In addition, Oregon InC's funding leverages private investment and federal government grants, which magnifies its impact on Oregon's start-up community. We are solid supporters of Oregon InC and its programs and will continue to work with the Council and the I&E division in the coming biennium to help Oregon's entrepreneurs be as successful as possible. We strongly encourage the Legislature to continue to fund this critical effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Holly Rockweiler".

Holly Rockweiler,
CEO Madorra

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