

ACEC Oregon

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF OREGON

Testimony in Support of SB 254 and SB 432

Presented by Marshall Coba

February 19, 2019

Good afternoon Chair Dembrow and members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. I am Marshall Coba on behalf of the American Council of Engineering Companies and our 120 member firms in support of Senate Bill 254 and Senate Bill 432.

Oregon's engineering companies have first-hand knowledge of Oregon's levee system. We have worked for years with our state and local government partners to monitor and improve the system. We understand the need for additional investments and to raise the level of public understanding of the important role levees play on private and public lands along waterways across the state.

We support SB 254 and expanding potential recipients of levee project loans and grants by the Oregon Infrastructure Authority to any public body. In many cases smaller entities need all the possible tools available. We see SB 254 as another important tool to find solutions to the many levee issues across Oregon.

Senate Bill 432 adds \$10 million in lottery funds to the levee subaccount for the 2019-21 biennium for use by communities in need. The levees work needed in Oregon far outweighs the funds available but through these two bills and other important tools we will continue to make progress in monitoring, designing and improving levees across Oregon.

Thank you for your consideration.

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