

ACEC Oregon

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF OREGON

Testimony in Opposition to HB 2420

Presented by Marshall Coba

February 20, 2019

Good afternoon Chair Holvey and members of the House Rules Committee. I am Marshall Coba on behalf of the American Council of Engineering Companies and our 120 member firms in opposition to HB 2420.

ACEC members work closely with our local government partners in a variety of roles. Among them is to provide building inspection, plan review services and other key functions in certain instances. We are concerned that HB 2420 as currently drafted to require building officials to be directly employed by a municipality would have adverse impacts on many projects especially in rural Oregon where these services are often most needed.

Timeliness is an issue we hear regularly from our local government partners when it comes to design, plan review and construction. HB 2420 could slow the building process across the state and result in delays and increased costs. In this time of heightened awareness of affordable housing and the need for prompt actions and approvals we see this as a potential impediment to both of these outcomes.

We would offer our time and intellect to ongoing discussions on this important topic. We appreciate the hard work that has gone into this issue over the past few years and the consideration of the Committee on all aspects of the debate.

Thank you.

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