House Committee on Revenue
March 15, 2019
HB 2978

I am writing to request your support of legislation that is critical to our short line railroad, Goose Lake Railway, and the businesses we serve in Lake County. The Short Line Railroad Maintenance Tax Credit (HB 2978) is legislation that provides a critical infrastructure funding solution that will allow short line railroads to increase investments in upgrading track and bridges to better serve our customers in Oregon.

Goose Lake Railway operates approximately 55 miles of track in Oregon and we provide freight service to customers transporting a variety of commodities that help feed, clothe, supply and power homes and businesses across Oregon, the United States, and beyond. Our freight services keep Oregon small businesses connected to the national freight rail network. At Goose Lake Railway we pride ourselves in being a good neighbor in the communities we serve. The safety of our people, cargo; and the public is our number one priority. We are committed to the belief that, if something cannot be done safely, it shouldn't be done.

A critical component to providing safe, reliable, and efficient rail service is continued reinvestment in our track infrastructure. Freight railroading is capital intensive. HB 2978 will help Goose Lake Railway and other short lines in Oregon continue to make investments in track infrastructure to more safely and efficiently serve our customers in Oregon. Track investments are one of the most important steps we can take as a business to improve the safety and longevity of our railroad, as well as create and retain jobs.

We would very much appreciate your support of short line freight railroads and our customers in Oregon by supporting the passage of HB 2978. Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact me with any questions about Goose Lake Railway or how this legislation will benefit short line railroads in Oregon.

Regards,

Bruce Addington
Co-Owner