

April 1, 2019

Joint Committee on Ways & Means
Sub-Committee on Transportation and Economic Development
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for SB 5516

Dear Co-Chair Manning, Jr., Co-Chair Gomberg, and Members of the Committee,

Oregon's seven public universities employ thousands of workers in all corners of the state. As major regional employers, we engage with the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) staff and leadership frequently, and have a vested interest in an agency that is adequately funded that runs smoothly and efficiently.

Staff in university offices of human resources, general counsel, Title IX, and more use the services and resources provided by BOLI. Specifically, we access these resources around laws, rulemaking, and trainings through the agency's website. While we know that every governmental entity is in an era of doing more with less, we believe that BOLI would be better equipped to serve Oregon's workers and employers if the state made an investment in website. BOLI has requested a one-time, \$250,000 investment for a major website upgrade for new BOLI website to "meet customer needs for access and information anywhere, anytime online." This state investment would improve the website's search functions and make it more user-friendly.

Transparency and responsiveness is an important characteristic of any public agency. Oregon's public universities support BOLI's request for new investment in technology infrastructure and the agency's website in SB 5516.

Sincerely,



Dana Richardson
Executive Director
Oregon Council of Presidents

Cc: Michelle Deister, Committee Coordinator