



April 3, 2019

**Senator Jackie Winters, Co-chair
Representative Carla Piluso Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means Public Safety Subcommittee
Oregon State Legislature**

Dear Senator Winters and Representative Piluso:

We write today to express our support for adequate funding of the State's court system.

Having been headquartered in Oregon for more than 110 years, we have watched as the State has grown larger and our system of jurisprudence more complicated. As a nationwide company based in Oregon, we rely on our branches of government to function efficiently and effectively, particularly the judicial system. An efficient judiciary provides certainty, reliability, and security for us and others. When disputes arise, both parties deserve timely resolution when seeking recourse from a court.

We understand there are many more asks than funds available as you work through the next biennium budget. However, Oregon's court system is one of the three fundamental, core functions of government, and its resources have been strained for too long.

Without adequate funding, businesses experience remarkable delays in the processing of cases – not because those working in the Oregon Judicial Department aren't doing their jobs, but because we are asking the courts to perform an increased workload with outdated resources. If businesses are experiencing delays, consumers are equally feeling the effect of underfunding.

An adequately funded court system provides reliability, predictability and security to Oregon's economy, which, in turn, makes it easier for businesses like The Standard to thrive from an Oregon base.

Sincerely,

Justin Delaney
Vice President & Associate Counsel

Kate Wilkinson,
Senior Director & Assistant Counsel