



**May 1, 2019**

*Sent via: Email*

**Subject: House Bill 5005 Testimony**

Dear Co-Chairs Girod and Holvey and members of the Committee:

RH2 Engineering is a consulting firm specializing in utility and infrastructure work for municipal clients throughout the Pacific Northwest. Our firm is committed to providing high-quality engineering services for resilience planning and risk mitigation for maintaining the long-term economic viability of our region.

After recognizing the benefits of the ShakeAlert earthquake early warning system for our clients, RH2 partnered with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and Pacific Northwest Seismic Network (PNSN), signing up to become a program pilot partner in 2017. RH2 is approved by USGS to provide technical assistance to help water/wastewater and transportation agencies obtain and use the signals. We assist our clients with setting parameters (i.e. earthquake strength, time to shaking at their location, and the calculated reliability of the warning) for these actions to occur. This early warning provides an important opportunity for our clients to take actions that minimize potential damage to their infrastructure.

RH2 urges the committee to support the \$12 Million capital investment for a statewide multi-hazard alerting system for earthquakes and wildfires. By investing in sensors for the ShakeAlert earthquake early warning, cameras for ALERTWildfire, and telemetry to allow real-time communication, the state will be advancing a multi-hazard approach to disaster response and mitigation.

Sincerely,

**Kyle Pettibone, PE**  
Principal/Project Manager

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**Rachel Lanigan, PE**  
Project Manager

**WASHINGTON LOCATIONS**

Bellingham  
Bothell (Corporate)  
East Wenatchee  
Issaquah  
Richland  
Tacoma

**OREGON LOCATIONS**

Medford  
Portland