

May 13, 2019

Dear Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee:

We'd like to thank Representative Karin Power for engaging us in the discussion and listening to our industry's concerns. We thank her for addressing some of our concerns, such as adding emerging small businesses to the list of considerations for public contracts.

Associated General Contractors – Oregon Columbia Chapter represents a broad cross-section of the commercial construction industry, including rural and metro, highway and building contractors. Unlike other states, most of our members are small, homegrown businesses.

AGC has one main concern with the -1 Amendments, relating to public contracting. Under the -1 Amendment, stringent requirements apply to off-road diesel equipment used on state-funded public contracts over \$20M throughout the state, beginning in 2021. One primary issue is that local contractors, particularly rural contractors, will be precluded from bidding on state projects in their area. We request that the public contracting requirements be limited to the tri-county area. Other portions of the bill are limited to the tri-county area, and given that, we request that the tri-county limitation apply across the board. This will make the implementation easier and the requirements clearer for our members, given the consistency across on and off-road diesel engines. It will also allow small, rural contractors to compete on projects in their neighborhoods.

This is a far-reaching bill and we hope to have the opportunity to discuss the particular concerns as it applies to off-road equipment. All contractors should have the ability to bid on public works, regardless of their ability to purchase extremely costly replacement equipment in such a short time frame.

For additional information, please contact John Rakowitz (503) 317-1781 or Kirsten Adams (503) 990-2262.

Best Regards,

John Rakowitz & Kirsten Adams



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