

House Revenue Committee
February 4, 2020

Chair Nathanson, Vice Chair Marsh, Vice Chair Reschke, and members of the Committee, for the record, my name is Brendan Finn, Policy Advisor to Governor Brown.

Thank you for allowing my testimony to express Governor Brown's support for HB 4079.

In December of 2018 Governor Brown issued Executive Order 18-31 which established the Oregon Broadband Office in recognition that broadband constitutes critical infrastructure for the prosperity of all Oregonians, especially Oregon's rural and underserved communities

The creation of the office was codified by the legislature with the passage of HB 2173, which again identifies broadband is increasingly vital for the conduct of commerce, the economic vitality of communities, and Oregon's global competitiveness

Governor Brown supports HB 4079, because it will provide capacity to address the challenges of the continuing Digital Divide in Oregon

Access to broadband levels the playing field and is fundamental to the delivery of education, health care and other critical services

In conclusion I would like to recognize the leadership and tireless efforts of Representative Marsh and Senator Roblan to ensure that 21st century infrastructure is available in all of Oregon's communities.

Thank you