

February 17, 2022



Joint Committee on Information Management and Technology
Rep. Nathanson, Co-Chair
Sen. Armitage, Co-Chair
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Support for HB4155 to bolster business resiliency and tech industry workforce development needs

Dear Rep. Nathanson, Sen. Armitage, and esteemed members of the Joint Committee on Information Management and Technology:

In a world of growing complexity, businesses coming out of a global pandemic are at the forefront of many risks, chief among them being cybersecurity. Recent testimony received by this body from industry leaders shares that cybersecurity is a looming threat to economic resilience, while also being a risk from which many business owners do not know how to protect themselves. Technology is advancing at a rapid rate and with this comes changes in how local economies function - we need your help.

As technology changes, so do our technological infrastructure needs, and the skills needed to manage those systems. Known colloquially as the "Silicone Shire", Eugene is home to many of Oregon's small tech business owners who understand this growth and the needs this part of our economy has for the future. We are thankful, then, to see the prospect of the Oregon Cybersecurity Center of Excellence and related advisory body, to support workforce development innovation in this growing industry.

We hope that this kind of public policy and infrastructure will encourage greater transparency and discussion of these needs and regulations, workforce development in this continuously emerging sector, and security for our local economies that increasingly depend on safe and reliable access to technology to function.

The Eugene Area Chamber of Commerce, with gratitude, supports the intent of HB4155 and thanks Committee members and legislative staff for their important work on this topic.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brittany Quick-Warner".

Brittany Quick-Warner
President and CEO, Eugene Area Chamber of Commerce