

ACEC Oregon

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF OREGON

Testimony Presented to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources

In Support of SB 634

February 13, 2023

Good morning Chair Golden and members of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, I am Marshall Coba representing the American Council of Engineering Companies-Oregon. ACEC-Oregon is a professional organization representing more than 110 member firms and 5,000 employees in Oregon. We have always been strong supporters of mechanisms to get limited and valuable funding for our important public infrastructure. We support Senate Bill 634 as a key component for funding critical improvements for our levee and flood safety infrastructure and are pleased to have this opportunity to add this letter to the record.

ACEC members work daily on projects across Oregon's more than one thousand miles of levees throughout the state. We know firsthand the communities that need additional funds to begin to investigate, plan and construct levee safety improvement projects. Many waterfront communities need these funds to become more resilient and to protect their vital business, educational, transportation and community livability infrastructure.

We appreciate the leadership of Senators Frederick and Gorsek and the leadership of the Multnomah County Drainage Districts and the Levee Ready Columbia partnership. It is through the continued efforts of these key partners along with significant funding resources like this \$15 million in lottery bonds that we will be able to make progress in our flood safety infrastructure.

We urge your support of SB 634 and forwarding the bill to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for funding.

Thank you.

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