



MAYOR ALEXANDER D. JOHNSON II

333 Broadalbin Street SW, PO Box 490, Albany, Oregon 97321-0144

February 23, 2023

Chair Bynum and Committee Members:

Support for HB 2199

The City of Albany supports extending the sunsets of the enterprise zone program. Extending the program will allow Albany to continue to leverage this vital economic development tool that helps attract new investments as well as retain and encourage expansion for existing manufacturing firms in our community. Enterprise zones are sponsored by the local government and are one of the only tools we currently possess to encourage economic growth and attract high paying jobs.

The enterprise zone program in Albany currently has:

- 12 companies that have located or expanded in the enterprise zone using this tool.
- These companies represent over \$70M in new investment in infrastructure, equipment and facilities that create lasting value in our community.
- These same companies have added hundreds of new, family wage jobs as a part of their enterprise zone partnership.
- In the short term, our community is forgoing roughly \$1.5M/year in revenue, but is enjoying a 16x return in durable investment, new jobs, and a diversified economy.

In alignment with the recommendations from the Semiconductor Task Force, passing the extension of this program early on will help send a strong signal that Oregon is ready to support economic growth from the semiconductor industry and advanced manufacturing in general.

Sincerely,

Alexander D. Johnson II
Mayor