



# WASHINGTON COUNTY OREGON

March 8, 2023

House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 3220 Oregon E-Cycles – Support

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Levy, and Levy, and Members of the Committee,

Washington County supports HB 3220 and the -2 amendment, which help advance a healthy and sustainable environment for our community. We believe products sold and disposed of in our community must be managed through a shared responsibility model between consumers, producers, and the materials management system. New and innovative solutions to reuse, repair and recycle electronic waste are needed in our communities to reduce negative environmental impacts.

Electronic devices are a constantly growing segment of our waste stream and developing robust reuse and recycling options for our communities is critical to protecting our environment. Although the Oregon E-Cycles program has successfully operated for more than 10 years it must be modernized to meet the current needs of the Washington County community. For example, the Oregon E-Cycles program recently outperformed the waste collection goals set under the current law. As a result, one of our community's most popular collection sites, Far West Recycling in Hillsboro, was eliminated from the program. Community members that had grown accustomed to visiting Far West Recycling for all their recycling needs were met with new restrictions and increased costs to drop off covered electronics. The overperformance of recycling goals should never result in reduced recycling opportunities.

To continue providing electronic recycling opportunities to our community and address the loss of the Far West Recycling e-cycling collection site, Washington County hosted an electronic recycling collection event. We saw triple the expected attendance at this special recycling collection event. The special event drew attendees from towns 30 minutes away – seeking responsible solutions to recycling their electronic products. In a state with an extended producer responsibility program for electronic devices traveling extended distances for electronic recycling opportunities should not be necessary.

In addition to facilitating collection sites like Far West Recycling, HB 3220, with its -2 amendments, makes other critical improvements to the program. The producer responsibility organizations running the program will be required to collect more electronic devices, engage historically underserved communities, and encourage more reuse of our electronic waste products. For these reasons, Washington County supports HB 3220 and the -2 amendment and urges your support.

Sincerely,

Thomas Egleston  
Solid Waste & Recycling Manager  
Washington County, Oregon