



A coalition of culturally responsive chambers of commerce focused on building a robust, equitable economy.



OREGON NATIVE
AMERICAN CHAMBER



February 13, 2023

The Honorable Representative Janell Bynum, Co-Chair Joint Semiconductor Committee
The Honorable Senator Janeen Sollman, Co-Chair Joint Semiconductor Committee
The Honorable Representative Kim Wallan, Co-Vice-Chair Joint Semiconductor Committee
The Honorable Senator Tim Knopp, Co-Vice Chair Joint Semiconductor Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Recommendations from the Semiconductor Task Force

Dear Co-Chair Bynum, Co-Chair Sollman, Co-Vice Chair Wallan, Co-Vice Chair Knopp:

We write to you as the Community Economic Coalition, a collective of culturally responsive business chambers focused on building a robust, equitable economy. The CEC envisions a world where Native, Indigenous, Latino, Hispanic, Black, Brown, Asian American, and Pacific Islander communities collectively shift and create generational wealth and power, make lasting systemic change, and actively shape public policy. We advocate for an equitable economy through communications with elected officials and civic servants, strategic collaboration, and resource sharing to actualize our communities' vast economic and leadership potential and our central role at all levels of commerce and enterprise to benefit today's community and future generations.

We appreciate you listening to the various collective voices demonstrated by the numerous informational sessions in response to the bold outline of recommendations

from the Oregon Semiconductor and Competitive Task Force. While the Coalition was not directly engaged in developing the recommendations, we are familiar with the effort.

Your decision regarding Industrial Land Inventory and Readiness is vital to Oregon's future economic stability. It will enable Oregon to retain and grow its economic leadership in semiconductors, position Oregon to compete for billions of federal dollars and stimulate the region's potential for further investments and opportunities.

An equitable and inclusive economy is imperative to create a healthy business ecosystem in which both small to medium size as well as large, nationally traded sector companies are prosperous and thriving in Oregon. As you contemplate legislation, we urge you to embed an equity lens as the framing that supports an inclusive and equitable economy that not only supports necessary expansion, employment, and Oregon's small business enterprise network, the backbone of Oregon's economy. The following are some of the ways you can do this:

Support legislation and development agreements that embed equitable economic development strategies

- Support legislation that increases the number of racially diverse companies in the technology sector statewide
- Support a comprehensive economic development strategy that considers land inventory and associated needs for housing and transportation throughout Oregon.
- Support innovation through development agreements that offer diverse and inclusive strategies to promote well-being and improve the quality of life in communities.

Removing barriers and supporting the Oregon workforce now and into the future

- Support the programs cited in the Future Ready Oregon investment for the \$200 million passed in 2022 with Senate Bill 1545.
- Consider additional funding for workforce support and/or technology-specific investments to assist people of color, rural, and other vulnerable populations in accessing the skills and opportunities to achieve good wages and workplace benefits.
- Support investments with community organizations and workforce development programs that enable education, training, and resources needed across the region.

Support legislation or development agreements that embed equitable procurement and supplier diversity in contracts

- Support large companies that can demonstrate their impact in support of a diverse supply chain
- Incentivize and recognize large employers that have a strong ESG program
- Support statewide policy on diversity in procurement contracting

Support entrepreneurship as a means for families to build generational wealth

- Support technical assistance support through policy and appropriate funding for programs, particularly those already in place or contemplated through Legislative Policy Option Packages (POP) or Legislative Concepts (LC) in the 2023 legislative session.
- Unwind barriers for business founders to access programs, services, and funding by modernizing and simplifying systems that start with yes.

Thank you for your consideration. We are happy to answer any questions or elaborate further on the content of this letter or related information as you deliberate on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

THE COMMUNITY ECONOMIC COALITION

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