

I am writing in support of HB 3572.

My name is Kwasi Boateng and I am Chief Operations Officer of an Oregon energy efficiency consulting business named Burch Energy. We provide a wide range of energy consulting services and demand side management for all building types. We are also a certified Oregon Benefit Company (OBC) and believe that business should be used as a force for good.

I believe House Bill (HB) 3572, as designed, will give Oregon small businesses that are also Oregon Benefit Companies a sustainable advantage when seeking contracts through the Oregon State procurement office. As an OBC leader, my commitment is to people and planet, therefore necessitating that sometimes I make business decisions that positively impact the environment and society, even if they are not cost-efficient.

The stipulation in the statute that states that OBCs should get contracts even if their bids are 5% higher than the lowest offer from non-Oregon Benefit Companies will go a long way to send a strong message in support of small businesses like ours that are committed to considering the social and environmental impacts of our business decisions.

I hope you will wholeheartedly support HB 3572.

Sincerely,

Kwasi Boateng Chief Operations Officer Burch Energy, Inc. Email: kboateng@burchenergy.com Phone: 971-373-5582