

March 29, 2023

Chair Pam Marsh Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment Oregon House of Representatives 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

Re: House Bill 3579

Dear Chair Marsh and members of the Committee.

Willamette Technical Fabricators manufactures transportation and clean energy infrastructure, including massive new projects that are being made possible by the Inflation Reduction Act. The increased demand for clean energy and compelling incentives in this bill have created tremendous opportunities for my certified economically disadvantaged, woman-owned, and minority-owned small business to grow. We doubled our workforce last year, and we're planning to double again in the next, providing high-skill, high-wage job opportunities and apprenticeships for the communities who need them most, including women & people of color who comprise half of our workforce. But unfortunately, as I evaluate all of the options for where to expand and build a new custom facility to accommodate our rapid growth, I have felt forced to look outside of Oregon, and consider states that are working much harder to leverage the new federal incentives and support the growth of green tech companies and clean energy manufacturers in particular, although leaving Oregon is not what I want.

I am therefore very encouraged by the proposed language in HB 3579 and the forthcoming amendment that will help maximize Oregon's competitiveness in attracting, expanding, and sustaining companies like Willamette Technical Fabricators, and so many more.

This bill provides an opportunity to support sustainable and equitable economic growth, and ensure affordable access to clean energy technologies for everyone. It promotes local and domestic manufacturing to avoid devastating supply chain disruptions and help make us more secure. It will help improve climate preparedness and resiliency, and help us reach our ambitious state decarbonization and equity goals simultaneously, through procurement preferences and the Oregon Clean Tech Opportunity Fund.

Thank you for your support of HB 3579,

AYicia Chapman (she/her)
Owner & Chief Executive Officer

Willamette Technical Fabricators