



Corporation Division
Oregon Secretary of State
255 Capitol St. NE, Suite 151
Salem OR 97310

April 6, 2023

RE: HB 5035

To whom it may concern,

Registered Agents Inc (“RAI”) is submitting this letter as testimony in support of House Bill 5035. RAI believes that, in order to promote entrepreneurship in the state, the online filing system utilized by the Oregon Secretary of State (“SOS”), specifically the Corporation Division, must be upgraded to meet modern technological standards. In order to effectuate this upgrade, moneys from the General Fund must be appropriated to the SOS as requested in House Bill 5035.

As a registered agent service provider, RAI provides registered agent services to thousands of entities in the State of Oregon. In conjunction with those services, RAI also submits business formation and ancillary business filings on behalf of our clients. RAI operates in all 50 states as well as Washington DC and Puerto Rico, and is extremely familiar with all variety of state filing systems, from the most technologically advanced to those that still require manual, paper filing submissions.

Unfortunately, the filing system currently implemented by the SOS is severely lacking in technological sufficiency. While the business formation process is done online and fairly intuitive, it still requires manual review. Further, many other filings, including but not limited to Amendment and Dissolution/Withdrawal, require manual, paper submission. These methods of submission and review not only cause delays in processing and reduced security, but also greatly increase the manual labor required by the Corporation Division. This manual submission and review issue is exacerbated by the fact that filing submissions cannot be tracked online, necessitating phone calls to the Corporation Division for updates. As a result of the high volume of filings, phone calls and limited staff, the Corporation Division Contact Center does not accept phone calls on Fridays. Clearly, the current system is not only placing a burden on the SOS and Corporation Division Staff, but also on entrepreneurs and entities seeking to do business in Oregon.


Moving towards a more technologically advanced filing system used for a wider array of business filings would allow for the automation of most, if not all business filings. An advanced filing system would also minimize and or remove the need for manual review, thus relieving the SOS and Corporation Division of an unnecessary burden. Further, utilizing a system with Application Programming Interface (“API”) integration would significantly streamline business filings and make Oregon even more attractive to those looking to form new businesses. Technological advancement,

especially API integration, would also increase efficiencies to business services companies such as RAI who submit thousands of business filings in Oregon annually.

To ensure progress and development, the SOS must receive the funds necessary to update and upgrade its business filing system. Therefore, RAI believes that approval of HB 5035 is essential for the continued growth of business development in Oregon.

Please contact us with any questions.

Regards,



Bryce Myrvang
Corporate Secretary
Registered Agents Inc