



Testimony in Support of SB 961 – Establishing the Oregon-Ireland Sister State Committee

February 20, 2025

Members of the Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs Committee:

My name is KC Klosterman, and I am the Director Government Relations at CRH Americas Materials Northwest. I also serve as CRH's representative to the Consulate's office. CRH is the largest Irish-formed company in the world, and while Accenture has headquarters in Ireland and generates more revenue, they are an American company. We are proud of our deep Irish roots and our contributions to both the Irish and Oregonian economies.

I am writing to express my strong support for SB 961, which establishes the Oregon-Ireland Sister State Committee. This legislation represents a significant step in fostering a lasting and mutually beneficial relationship between Oregon and Ireland, facilitating economic, cultural, and governmental collaboration.

CRH is the largest asphalt company, the second-largest aggregate company, and the third-largest concrete company globally. Our cement company offers the lowest carbon footprint in the Pacific Northwest and stands as the only cement producer in Oregon and Washington. Sustainability is at the core of our mission, and we continuously strive to lead the industry in environmentally responsible practices.

Our operations span 28 countries across four continents, employing 80,000 people worldwide. In North America alone, we are the largest building materials business, with operations in 48 U.S. states and 7 Canadian provinces, employing 46,400 people. In Europe, we lead the building materials market with operations in 22 countries. We also maintain a strong regional leadership position in Asia. Our Northwest headquarters are proudly located right here in Salem, Oregon.

The establishment of the Oregon-Ireland Sister State Committee will further strengthen the existing ties between Oregon and Ireland, promoting economic growth, cultural exchange, and collaborative projects. As a representative of one of Ireland's most prominent companies, I see immense potential for this partnership to create new opportunities for both regions.

I urge this committee to pass SB 961 and take this important step in formalizing a relationship that has the potential to bring lasting benefits to Oregon. Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony and am happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

KC Klosterman Director Government Relations, CRH Americas Materials Northwest