



Date: February 4, 2026

To: Senate Committee on Labor and Business
Oregon State Legislature

Subject: Support Testimony for Senate Bill 1506-1

Chair Taylor and members of the committee, my name is Nathan Philips, and I work with the National Electrical Contractors Association. I am here today to express our support for SB1506-1, the Bureau of Labor and Industries' (BOLI) WBF funding Bill.

We appreciate the committee working on this issue to find a stable funding solution. Having been in the industry for decades representing thousands of workers that have graduated from a registered training program, I know firsthand how unstable BOLI has been thru the years. As contractors working in Oregon, we need BOLI to carry out its mission completely and effectively. The alternative is businesses at risk of unequal competition – those that follow the rules and those that don't.

We support high standards, and we expect that they will be enforced. We don't agree with BOLI on every matter, but we need the agency to make sure businesses have a uniform set of rules to operate by.

We pride ourselves on obtaining and maintaining a high degree of training and education to support our contractors to get the work done right, on time and of course in a safe manner.

We are particularly encouraged by BOLI's commitment to strengthening prevailing wage enforcement and making sure apprenticeship standards are maintained throughout Oregon.

Funding BOLI now is an investment in the future of Oregon's workforce and businesses. We encourage you to pass SB1506-1 to provide stability for BOLI and for our programs and the services we receive.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathan Philips". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Nathan Philips, Joint Legislative Committee Chair
Oregon Chapters of the National Electrical Contractors Association