



**CHANGING WORKERS' LIVES**

Date: February 4, 2026

To: Senate Committee on Labor and Business  
Oregon State Legislature

**Subject: Support Testimony for Senate Bill 1506-1 (2026 Session)**

Chair Taylor and members of the committee, my name is Chad Smith, and I work with the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades District Council 5. We represent over 6,000 skilled workers in the glazing, painting, flooring and drywall finishing crafts.

I am here today to express our strong support for SB 1506-1, the Bureau of Labor and Industries' (BOLI) funding bill using the WBF mechanism.

Having been in the industry for decades representing thousands of workers that have graduated from a registered training program, I know firsthand how life changing these programs are. We understand the proposed Bill includes funding to reduce case backlogs, modernize wage and hour enforcement, and strengthen apprenticeship training for years to come. These investments are essential for maintaining a fair and equitable labor market in Oregon.

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 any backlog in wage and hour claims can delay workers receiving their rightful pay for months.

In alignment with IUPAT DC5's political priorities, we support BOLI's initiatives to promote skill development and protect wage and hour laws. Fully funding BOLI is an investment in the future of Oregon's workforce. We encourage you to pass SB 1506-1 to provide stability for BOLI and for our programs and the services we receive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Chad Smith'.

Chad Smith, Political Director  
International Union of Painters & Allied Trades District Council 5