

Testimony in Support of HB 4086

Alando Simpson – COR

House Committee on Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade

February 2, 2026

Chair and members of the Committee,

My name is Alando Simpson, and I'm CEO of COR, a Portland-based certified benefit corporation that has been in the waste and recycling business for 30 years.

If you pass this legislation, I know Oregon can lead the nation in circular economic development and create new jobs.

In 2022 and 2025, I had the privilege of joining delegations of Oregon business and elected leaders traveling to Denmark where we learned firsthand how industrial symbiosis is a game-changer in building a resilient economy.

This knowledge is now in action. This year, Portland is launching its first-ever Portland Clean Industry Hub, a pioneering collaboration between the Portland Metro Chamber, the City of Portland, Portland State University, and Neighbors for Clean Air.

Our COR Campus in Portland's Northeast Parkrose neighborhood is at the heart of our vision to create a waste innovation accelerator where we demonstrate how to turn waste into valuable resources, create high-paying jobs, and slash greenhouse gas emissions.

The technical assistance provided in this bill will leverage local investments and supercharge our work to foster new industries that provide family-wage careers in recycling, remanufacturing, and clean technology.

This support will also strengthen collaboration between industries, boosting resource efficiency, and creating economic resilience in our state.

For decades, Oregon has been a trailblazer in environmental leadership. But let's be honest, we have been stagnant in advancing next-generation solutions at scale.

With your support for House Bill 4086 we can change this narrative and demonstrate that Oregon is open and ready for public-private partnerships that unlock new markets, foster innovation, and create jobs and additional tax revenue.

Thank you for your consideration and support for this legislation.