



February 4, 2026

Re: Portland Metro Chamber Support for HB 4084

Honorable Chair Nguyen, Vice Chairs Isadore and Skarlatos, and members of the House Committee on Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade:

The Portland Metro Chamber (The Chamber) is greater Portland's Chamber of Commerce and represents the largest, most diverse network of businesses in the region. The Alliance advocates for business at all levels of government to support commerce, community health and the region's overall prosperity. We represent more than 2,200 members, from 27 counties, 13 states and virtually every industry sector. More than 80% of our members are small businesses.

HB 4084 is an action item in the 2026 Portland Economic Action Plan. The Portland Economic Action plan is published by the Portland Metro Chamber to help legislative leaders focus on a priority list of actionable, broadly supported proposals that will strengthen the economy in the Portland region. It is critical that the legislature continue to make focused, high impact investments in the Portland economy.

The Portland region is facing significant economic uncertainty with record commercial vacancy rates, stagnating population, and tens of thousands of job losses resulting in declining state and local revenues from business and property taxes. We know the state budget is dependent on a healthy economy in the Portland region. A study published in 2025 showed that every state dollar spent in Portland has returned approximately \$1.55 to the state general, or a 55% return.

As part of the 2026 Portland Economic Action Plan, HB 4084 has been identified as a bill that will help revitalize and strengthen the economy in the Portland region.

Investments in Industrial Site Readiness have long been a need in the Portland Metro Region and across the state, and a priority of the Chamber. HB 4084 allocates \$40M to address funding gaps that will unlock much needed opportunities for growth. Additionally, enterprise zones are a proven tool to attract investment and growth, and HB 4084 would make this tool more available and useful for more companies and communities.

Finally, we applaud the Governor's leadership on addressing permitting inefficiencies that have long burdened Oregon business and slowed or prevented economic growth. We are hopeful for the potential of the Governor's proposal, and are grateful for her engagement with the business to community to ensure the FastTrack tool is accessible and beneficial for promoting development.

For these reasons, the Portland Metro Chamber urges the committee to support HB 4084 to support a healthy statewide economy that benefits all of Oregon. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jon Isaacs

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PORTLAND METRO CHAMBER

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