



February 6, 2026

Senate Committee on Commerce and General Government  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for Senate Bill 1585 – Grant Match for Small Cities

Dear Commerce and Geneal Government Committee members:

I am writing to express the City of La Pine's support of SB 1585. The City of La Pine, while unique for being Oregon's youngest incorporated city, is also distinctive in that this incorporation did not consider the much larger population already in place at the time of formation.

As SB 1585 endeavors to limit matching requirements for state grants, La Pine stands to benefit substantially as our current incorporated population of 3,100 does not reflect the nearly 12,000 other residents who live adjacent to the city, across two separate counties, that rely on La Pine and its infrastructure daily.

Much like the many other small cities across Oregon, La Pine struggles to meet the demands that are commensurate with growth, and the flexibility and caps in matching funds for state grants as proposed under SB 1585 will help us continue to meet these needs as the fastest growing municipality in Deschutes County.

We are committed to the facilitation of planned development, having just gone through a robust comprehensive plan update, and the completion of a \$42 million water and sewer expansion project. SB 1585 can help us achieve further expansion by providing us with the tools to continue thoughtful capital planning to meet the needs of our community today, and for the future.

As such please consider this call for full support SB 1585, and help Oregon's municipalities continue to provide functional, healthy, and economically viable places for our citizens to thrive.

Sincerely,

Geoff Wullschlager  
City Manager