



CITY OF HALSEY
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February 6, 2026

Commerce and General Government Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for Senate Bill 1585 – Grant Matching Relief for Small Cities

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in my capacity as Mayor of the City of Halsey to express my support for Senate Bill 1585 and respectfully encourage your support for its passage.

The City would like to express its strong support for SB 185. Currently, cities of all sizes have the same grant match requirements for grants, even though larger cities typically have greater resources available for matches. For example, a city of 1,000 people and a city of 50,000 people both would have the same grant match requirements.

It is a widely known fact that small cities don't apply for many grant opportunities simply because they don't have the funds to design the project, or the funds to meet cost prohibitive grant matching requirements. SB 1585 directly addresses these common small city hardships by providing a scaled approach to grant match requirements, and flexibility for use of grant funds for engineering, planning and support. The City of Halsey is among the many small cities that have foregone grant opportunities over the years simply to the inability to meet costly grant matching requirements.

SB 1585 represents an important step forward for Oregon and addresses matters that directly impact small communities like ours. Thoughtful legislation that supports local communities, promotes fairness, and strengthens long-term sustainability is essential, and this bill moves our state in a positive direction.

As Mayor, I value policies that help communities remain strong, resilient, and are supportive of the people who live and work here. I believe passage of SB 1585 will provide meaningful benefits for residents across Oregon and contribute to a strong future for our state.

Thank you for your continued service to our district and for considering this perspective from the City of Halsey. I appreciate your time and commitment to the people of Oregon.

Sincerely,

Jerry Lachenbruch
Mayor, City of Halsey

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