



Date: February 25, 2026  
To: Senate Committee on Rules  
Oregon State Legislature

**Subject: Support Testimony for Senate Bill 1501**

My name is Chad Smith and on behalf of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) District Council 5, I am writing in strong support of Senate Bill 1501.

IUPAT DC5 represents more than 6,000 skilled workers across our region. We have advanced training centers in the Portland area ready to help showcase the high-skilled work of our glazers, painters and our allied trades. While much of the discussion around SB 1501 has centered on sports, we believe its impact on Oregon's tax base is just as important, including our ability to demonstrate the excellent work of our professional workers.

In partnership with our contractors, we complete projects safely, efficiently, and to the highest standards. Sustaining that workforce requires consistent job opportunities. Projects supported by SB 1501 create apprenticeships, provide the on-the-job training necessary to advance skills, and open pathways into lifelong, family-wage careers.

Without steady work, the training pipeline weakens. Apprenticeship enrollment declines, experienced workers leave the industry, and we risk falling behind in preparing the next generation. SB 1501 helps ensure we can continue building and sustaining Oregon's skilled workforce.

When our members are working, they strengthen local businesses and contribute to the state's tax base. We respectfully urge your support for SB 1501.

Sincerely,

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