

Lori Stegmann
Multnomah County Commissioner
Representing East County, District 4



April 10, 2019

House Committee on Rules
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Honorable Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee,

Advocating for increased investments in my district has been one of my highest priorities during my tenure as a Multnomah County Commissioner. I share this passion with many others throughout my community and our state. In partnership with our fellow jurisdictions, business, nonprofit and philanthropic communities, we continue to apply for every available resource possible, whether seeking grants to plan for future growth or to help provide the needed funding to support our services.

Our regional partners have highlighted demographic and economic trends across the state and what we see are great inequities even within our smallest jurisdictions. Economic imbalances and overwhelming social issues have been exacerbated by the lack of detailed data that we need in order to bring forth meaningful solutions. I believe we have a duty to provide the best possible snapshot of these data to help us develop services, adjust programming, and locate facilities. Using a lens to prevent further displacement and marginalization of communities, we are planning for the future growth of our state while also trying to determine the support needed in our local regions.

Without transparent, accurate funding data from our state agency partners, we are unable to fully articulate our service costs at the local level. How we respond to and shape future growth will have an important impact on the economy and quality of life in our state for years to come. This work must be done across sectors that include industry and entrepreneurship, education, housing and workforce development, land use, transportation and infrastructure; and in concert with current statewide efforts.

I look forward to working with you as we plan for Oregon's future. The ability to identify and communicate our service levels along with the data needed to improve our economic development and service delivery efforts locally is critical. I urge you to support HB 3390 to provide local jurisdictions the information needed to plan appropriately for growth and services within each of our geographic areas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lori Stegmann".

Commissioner Lori Stegmann, Multnomah County District 4