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OREGON
RECYCLERS

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March 8, 2017

Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chair Frederick, Co-Chair Witt, and Members of the Committee:

The Association of Oregon Recyclers (AOR) is a trade association focused on advancing sustainable materials management in Oregon. AOR supports the Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) Land Quality Policy Option Package 131 found within the department budget laid out in Senate Bill 5518.

Policy Option Package 131 will enable DEQ to continue progress toward its implementation of *Materials Management in Oregon: 2050 Vision and Framework for Action*, adopted by Oregon Environmental Quality Commission in 2012. AOR members played a key role in the development and implementation of the 2050 Vision and Framework for Action, working alongside DEQ in 2011-2012 to help create the 2050 Vision. AOR members were also integral in the creation of Senate Bills 245 and 263, both of which were enacted during the 2015 regular session and help to progress the 2050 Vision of sustainable materials management for the State of Oregon.

Policy Option Package 131 will authorize DEQ to use fee revenue from permit and tip fees to fund five positions. These positions will focus on high-priority projects to improve waste management and recycling systems, assist businesses with voluntary initiatives, reduce toxins, and prevent waste.

AOR is committed to achieving a system of sustainable materials management for the State of Oregon and supports both Policy Option Package 131 and the proposed DEQ budget set forth in SB 5518.

Sincerely,

Justin Gast
Legislative Chair, Association of Oregon Recyclers