



NEWS

Oregon Legislature - House Democratic Caucus

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House Passes Buy Oregon First Bill

HB 3000 allows state agencies to choose Oregon goods when bidding out contracts

SALEM – The House today passed HB 3000, the Buy Oregon First Bill. The bill, chief sponsored by Representative Brian Clem (D-Salem) and Representative Ben Cannon (D-SE Portland), allows state agencies to give preference to goods and services produced in Oregon when bidding out contracts.

In 2009, HB 2763 was enacted allowing contracting agencies to give a 10 percent price preference to agricultural products produced and transported entirely within the state. HB 3000 adds goods fabricated or processed in the state and services performed in the state.

“Oregon government purchases a lot of goods and services. We should be buying Oregon products first. We think as many of these products as possible should be purchased from small businesses within our state, particularly when the price of those products is very similar. This bill allows Oregon companies to take advantage of the state’s purchasing power to grow their businesses and create more Oregon jobs,” said Rep. Clem.

HB 3000 allows a contracting agency to pay up to 10 percent more for goods fabricated or processed in Oregon or services performed entirely within the state. Additionally, if more than one bidder or proposer qualifies for the 10 percent preference, the bill allows a contracting agency to give further preference to a bidder that resides or is headquartered in Oregon. The bill contains exceptions for specified public improvements and construction contracts.

“Oregon companies should not be penalized by having to match, penny for penny, the price of goods produced in countries with lower environmental, labor or quality standards,” said Rep. Cannon. “This bill evens the playing field for Oregon businesses and will boost our state’s economy.”

HB 3000 now moves to the Senate for consideration.

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