

July 31, 2025

The Honorable Tobias Read Secretary of State 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

RE: House Bill 2688

Dear Secretary Read,

Today, I am signing House Bill 2688, which provides clarity about off-site fabrication for public projects being subject to prevailing wage requirements.

From my perspective, the concerns raised during the bill's consideration assume that House Bill 2688 is much broader than written or intended, including the potential to impact housing development.

As stated on the record, House Bill 2688 does not apply to modular housing or mass timber products that are purchased from a manufacturer based on a common set of standards. While there are occasions where modular housing or mass timber products require customization, this level of modification should not be defined as "bespoke" and thus subject to prevailing wage laws. I am signing House Bill 2688 with this expectation.

Additionally, my office will closely monitor the required rulemaking process led by the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI). I expect this process will create more certainty and quell any fears that the scope of the bill captures unintended manufacturing projects.

Sincerely,

Governor Tina Kotek

cc: Speaker of the House Julie Fahey

Senate President Rob Wagner

TK:smg