



TINA KOTEK  
GOVERNOR

June 24, 2025

The Honorable Julie Fahey  
Speaker of the House  
H-271 State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301

The Honorable Rob Wagner  
President of the Senate  
S-201 State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Senate Bill 5529 - Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) budget bill for 2025 - 2027  
biennial expenses

Dear President Wagner and Speaker Fahey:

Today I am signing Senate Bill 5529, which is the 2025-2027 budget bill for the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA). The Governor's Recommended Budget (GRB) included Policy Option Package 500: IT Modernization for \$442,546 in General Funds for LUBA to modernize its outdated case management database and implement an electronic case management and filing system. POP 500 supports mission-critical agency function, stability, and security.

LUBA's existing process for managing appeals relies on paper filing and service of documents through the US Mail or commercial delivery service. LUBA internally manages case information by manual data entry in an outdated Microsoft Access database. The existing processes are causing delays and errors in processing appeals. Attorneys and the public expect the quickness, convenience, and accuracy of electronic filing and case file access. In addition, POP 500 was intended to easy access to increase transparency, efficiency, and public confidence in the LUBA appeals process by making records accessible and consistent with the public's expectation that there be electronic access to filings.

Written testimony submitted for SB 5529 unanimously supports LUBA IT Modernization. Agency personnel perceived that POP 500 was generally supported by the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources. Legislator comments at the May 23, 2025, Joint Ways and Means Work Session on SB 5529 indicated that legislators support LUBA IT Modernization and that some members may not have recognized that the SB 5529 amendments removed the Governor's recommended POP 500 IT Modernization funding from the agency budget.

Given this, I am directing LUBA to continue working with the Department of Administrative Services on all possible pathways to accomplish the needed IT Modernization, and to be prepared to renew its request for IT Modernization funding at the next available opportunity.

Sincerely,

Governor Tina Kotek