

To: Legislative Counsel

From: Scott Winkels, League of Oregon Cities, 503-720-8384

Date: 8/21/18

Re: Executive Sessions ORS 192.660(4)

Please draft legislation that amends ORS 192.660 (4) or other appropriate statute that adds a definition of the word “news media” for purposes of admittance to an executive session that reflects the following:

- 1) “News” means factual information that is about current events;
- 2) “News Media” means an entity that is organized and operated to publish, broadcast, or disseminate news to the public that ordinarily reports the activities of the public entity holding the executive session or that ordinarily reports news on matters of the nature under consideration by the public body holding the executive session.
- 3) “News Media” is not a person, or entity or representative of a person or entity that is directly involved in the issue the public body is conducting the executive session about.
- 4) A local government may adopt a policy that further defines which news media organizations are entitled to attend executive session so long as news media organizations that adheres to the ethical standards of a statewide association of news providers or whose employees or agents adhere to the ethical standards of a statewide or national association of news reporters.