John & Heather Collier

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February 11, 2019

House Committee on Economic Development Oregon State Legislature Salem, OR

Subject: SB 2052, Oregon Cultural Trust extension

Dear Committee Members:

We urge your support for the renewal of the Oregon Cultural Trust tax credit for supporting arts and culture in Oregon. We have lived in six different states and Oregon is the only one with such a creative method of support for arts in our lives. The taxpayer who has made the choice to support arts and cultural institutions with their own donations can also direct parts of their Oregon income taxes to similar function in the Cultural Trust.

The methodology of grants given at the state level through the Trust along with allocation of funds to regional arts councils along with tribal organizations means that all organizations and Oregonians can get appropriate support. As we live in a rural coastal community is north Lincoln County, the regional arts council and tribal funds have given support to key projects in our local area that would not be available in a statewide fund.

The Cultural Trust tax credit is one of those solutions whose success over the years is notable. Please continue it by extending the provisions.

Sincerely,

John & Heather Collier