



# culturaladvocacycoalition

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March 31, 2019

Representative John Lively, Chair  
Representative Daniel Bonham, Vice Chair  
Representatives Julie Fahey, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Economic Development  
Oregon State Capitol  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Lively, Vice-Chairs Findley and Fahey, and Committee Members:

On behalf of the members of the Cultural Advocacy Coalition, we write to urge your support for HB 2948 which will allow the continued use of revenues from the Cultural Trust license plates to be used for marketing and promotion of Oregon's Cultural Trust.

Oregon's policymakers were visionary when they created the Trust to support access to arts and culture across our state and their vision is slowly being realized. However, success depends upon our residents knowing about the opportunity created by the cultural trust tax credit, and this minimal investment of resources is critical to building both knowledge and increased contributions.

Our goal is that every corner of Oregon has access to the cultural sector and that every resident understands the importance of creative expression in their lives. Originally it was envisioned that that the Cultural Trust would be funded from the sale of surplus state lands to the level of \$200 m. That vision has not yet been realized but Oregonians have stepped up and helped build the fund to where it stands today. All told, since the Cultural Trust was founded, \$23 million has been distributed in grant funds across the state to county coalitions, tribes and statewide partners. Its slow going and won't happen without better awareness. HB 2948 continues to provide critical resources to support this important outreach.

We appreciate your consideration and support for HB 2948.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nancy Golden, President of the Cultural Advocacy Coalition