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January 25, 2021

Robert A. Wagner  
Chair of Senate Committee on Rules and Executive Appointments  
900 Court St. Northeast  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Wagner, Vice Chair Girod and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Oregon China Council, it's my honor and pleasure to submit this letter of support for the Senate confirmation of Sophron Cheang, an appointee to the position of Director of Business Oregon.

Ms. Cheang has had a distinguished career that makes her uniquely qualified to lead Oregon's largest economic development agency. Her strong background in finance, organizational development, and executive management will serve the agency well as Oregon's economy recovers from COVID-19, and beyond.

As the President of the Oregon China Council, I worked closely with Ms. Cheang during the early days of the COVID 19 outbreak in March 2020, to secure PPE from China for essential workers here in Oregon. Her strength and experience in organizational management and community building and development, helped her foster fast and fruitful partnerships with Oregon's Chinese communities and Oregon's sister state stakeholders in Fujian province---all helping to make possible this important donation from an NGO in China.

From April to August 2020, the Oregon China Council, with Ms. Cheang's assistance, coordinated the donation of 82,000 face masks from China, for distribution by the Oregon Emergency Management Office. It is the largest humanitarian donation to ever come from China to the people of Oregon. Ms. Cheang's tireless efforts, vision, caring, and leadership enabled the Oregon China Council to deliver badly needed PPE to Oregon's first responders and essential workers.

Ms. Cheang currently serves as the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for Governor Kate Brown, where she has overseen the development of state business policies to eliminate bias and barriers and provide economic opportunities for all Oregon businesses through equity practices in state procurement and community economic development.

Ms. Cheang's business acumen and tenacious spirit led her to senior leadership positions in business, government, and non-profit sectors. A collaborator by nature, she successfully fosters partnerships with diverse communities and stakeholders.

Ms. Cheang's multicultural background offers her some unique and valuable perspectives when promoting the economic opportunities of Oregon internationally.

As Oregon embarks on economic recovery and fights climate change, the Oregon China Council looks forward to working with Ms. Cheang to further pool our resources to bring real benefits to Oregonians.

Sincerely yours,

Jin Lan



President, Oregon China Council

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