



February 11, 2021

Senate Committee on Rules
Senator Rob Wagner
Senator Fred Girod

Via Email to:

Sen.RobWagner@OregonLegislature.gov

Sen.FredGirod@OregonLegislature.gov

Subject: Senate Confirmation for Director of Business Oregon

Dear Chair Wagner, Vice Chair Girod, and Members of the Committee:

The Oregon Latinx Leadership Network (OLLN) supports the recommendation to confirm Sophorn Cheang's appointment as Director of Business Oregon. OLLN is a collective movement of more than 100 community based organizations led by and supporting the Latino communities of Oregon. OLLN also consists of hundreds of Latino leaders from both the private and public sectors.

OLLN has worked with Ms. Cheang in her current role as director of the state's Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. For the Latino community, it is all about relationships. Ms. Cheang has invested her time in building relationships of trust with the Latino community. From day one, Ms. Cheang has been a strong partner as we have advocated for resources on behalf of the Latino community of Oregon, especially with regards to COVID-19. Ms. Cheang has provided us strategic guidance on how to engage in decision-making processes.

Ms. Cheang has the foundational capabilities, knowledge, and expertise to lead Business Oregon. She has the experience in financing, budgeting and executive leadership required to lead the state's economic development agency.

OLLN believes that Ms. Cheang will also bring much needed lived experience and perspective to impact the agency from a racial justice standpoint. She is a natural bridge builder with both communities of color and business leaders.



OLLN supports the confirmation of Sophorn Cheang as Director of Business Oregon and looks forward to partnering with her in that role.

Respectfully submitted,
Oregon Latinx Leadership Network (OLLN)

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