

We are writing this as a written testimony of support for HB 3173, that removes requirement that amount of net proceeds from Oregon State Lottery allocated to County Fair Account not exceed \$1.53 million annually. County fairs across the state support youth development programs that include 4-H, FFA, and Youth Livestock Auctions.

As volunteers of the 4-H program, we understand the impact these youth programs have on our communities. Our youth who care for animals gain skills that benefit them for a lifetime. They learn to accept responsibility, communicate effectively, develop relationships, decisions making, organization, and setting/achieving goals. That builds strong technical knowledge and value through their years of participation that lasts a lifetime.

Without the county fairgrounds, these youth development programs would have difficulty providing these valuable learning events. The facilities and support the fairgrounds provide are a consistent location to hold meetings, educational events, contests, and more. We believe that removing the funding cap to provide additional investment to our county fairgrounds will provide further benefits and support our youth programs as they can invest in the facilities and services we use.

Additionally, as business owners up and down the Oregon coast, we understand our county fairgrounds; economic impact. They hosted over 6.15 million people in 2019, had over 600 non-profit groups that raised over 10 million dollars in charitable donations, and had over 10,000 volunteers with over 200,000 hours of service.

We fully support this bill that removes the requirement that the amount of net proceeds from the Oregon State Lottery allocated to the County Fair Account not exceed \$1.53 million annually. And ask that the legislature vote to affirm this bill.

Ronald Scott Lager  
CEO  
Celestial Seafood

Lalori Lager M.A. CADC II  
Executive Director  
Reconnections Counseling