

I'm writing to request that the Ways and Means committee allocates funds from the ARP and State of Oregon to save the Portland Children's Museum.

The board of PCM cited that there is no viable path forward for this organization, but as recently as February stated that only 500k was needed by the end of the year. The community is saddened and outraged by this closure, and I know that we would come together to raise the needed funds if the board gives us the chance. The Ways and Means committee could get the attention of the PCM board with its support.

The most at risk in our state have now had the opportunity to get the COVID vaccine, and more and more people are getting vaccinated each day. There is no reason the museum can't reopen soon with some safety restrictions in place. Please do what you can to ensure the survival of the Portland Children's Museum so children can continue to have that great resource for learning and play.

Our children are an investment in a better life for everyone. We should be able to do whatever is in our power to make sure they have a better chance at a better life than we had.