

Dear Chairs Girod and Holvey, and members of the Committee:

My name is Angelina Retherford and I live in Toledo. I am an active member of the Fishermen's Wives. I have volunteered at the Toledo Elementary School for the last 10 years, and also served as a preschool teacher for 10 years with the Siletz Head Start program.

I am writing in support of funding for the Greater Toledo Aquatic and Community Center. I have utilized the Toledo Pool for 32 years. I swam at the pool and also assisted with swim lessons for both the Siletz Head Start and the Toledo Elementary School classes. I also took swim lessons from the Greater Toledo Pool myself, when I was 7 years old. My 3 children have all been through the swim lessons through their school and the pool.

My husband is a commercial fisherman. Our family owns 4 commercial fishing boats out of Newport, Oregon. This swim program at the Greater Toledo pool has greatly impacted the safety of my children when they are on and around the fishing boat in the Yaquina Bay. To this day my family all swims at the pool and are very grateful to have a pool in our area to teach children water safety and swim lessons for life.

I want to thank you for considering funding the Greater Toledo Aquatic and Community Center in East Lincoln County.