

AOC ASSOCIATION OF OREGON COUNTIES

May 12, 2021

2021 Oregon Legislature
Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education
Co-Chairs: Senator Lew Frederick & Representative Susan McLain

Subject: Funding for Oregon Solutions

Dear Co-Chair Frederick, McLain and Members of the Subcommittee:

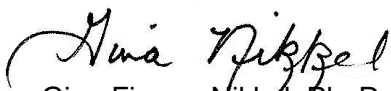
I write today to offer our support for the current funding levels for the Oregon Solutions program as contained in HB 5528.

AOC has been working closely with Oregon Solutions through our County Solutions program on the Oregon Coast Trail Project. This is a complex initiative that involves seven counties, 28 cities, five federal agencies, three state agencies and seven tribes. We have benefited from a relationship with Oregon Solutions as it convenes statewide stakeholders while our AOC County Solutions program convenes local stakeholders up and down the coast.

Combining the convening authority of the Governor at the state level with the convening authority of the County Commissioners at the local level has given us the foundation to succeed in our shared commitment to make the completion of the Oregon Coast Trail a reality. We believe that the Oregon Coast Trail project represents a true state-local partnership and look forward to our work with Oregon Solutions to demonstrate the value of convening the many stakeholders who believe in the importance of this project.

I urge your support for the Oregon Solutions budget in HB 5528.

Sincerely,



Gina Firman Nikkel, Ph. D.
Executive Director, Association of Oregon Counties

CC:

Senator Michael Dembrow
Senator Chuck Thomsen
Representative Teresa Alonso Leon
Representative Bobby Levy
Representative E. Werner Reschke
Representative Ricki Ruiz

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