

Submitter: Thomas Triplett

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Economic Recovery and Prosperity

Measure: HB4040

I strongly support passage of this bill. Cultural organizations have been hard hit by the pandemic. Annual fund raising dinners have been cancelled. For a significant period, attendance was so restricted, that some facilities were unable to open at all. I have direct knowledge based upon serving on the High Desert Museum Board of Trustee, now in my 19th year in that capacity. The museum survives on contributions, paid attendance, serving meals from its cafeteria, and sales in its gift shop. With the fusion of those sources of revenue, and careful monitoring of expenses, it is hoped that we can produce a modest positive cash flow to allow for needed maintenance, providing education both within and without the confines of the Museum, and to enhance exhibits depicting life in the high desert among its native population. During the pandemic we were faced with closure for a significant period of time. When we reopened, finding employees was a significant task and we have had to increase wages dramatically. We are not unique. I am sure you will find our story similar to many. I thus urge you to give favorable consideration to this bill