



DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF LANE COUNTY

To: House Committee on Rules
From: Chris Wig, Chair, and Charlie Swanson, Platform
Committee Chair, Democratic Party of Lane County
Re: Support for HJR 205 – amendment to allow a state bank

February 21, 2022

Dear Chair Smith Warner, Vice Chairs Breese-Iverson & Fahey, and Members of the Committee,

We are writing on behalf of the greater than 100,000 Democrats in Lane County to urge you to vote Yes on HJR 205, which proposes an amendment to Oregon Constitution to allow a state bank to be established. While some legal scholars believe that the Oregon Constitution already allows the establishment of a state bank, there is enough ambiguity in our Constitution that we feel it is prudent to remove that ambiguity.

Democrats in Lane County strongly believe that it would be useful to establish a state bank similar to the Bank of North Dakota, so that our public funds can be used to help Oregon rather than enriching large multi-state and multi-national financial institutions.

Please contact us if you have any questions or require additional information. We look forward to working with you to create a more just and prosperous Oregon.

Sincerely,

Chris Wig
Chair
Democratic Party of Lane County

Charlie Swanson
Chair of the Platform Committee
Democratic Party of Lane County