



## **STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF HJR 205 STATE BANK REFERRAL**

**To: House Committee on Rules**  
**From: United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555**  
**2/21/22**

Dear Chair Smith Warner, Vice Chairs Breese-Iverson and Fahey, and members of the committee,

We thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HJR 205, which would refer to the voters an amendment to Oregon's constitution to allow the Legislative Assembly to develop and establish a state bank.

UFCW Local 555 is the largest private sector labor union in Oregon. Our members come from a number of industries, including grocery, retail, food processing, manufacturing, and healthcare. We are a diverse group of workers who take pride in acting as a strong collective voice for working people.

Economic justice is an important issue that impacts all Oregonians. The current provision in Oregon's constitution, while well intentioned in its time, does not reflect the complexities of today's policy discourse and unnecessarily constricts certain options. HJR 205 would allow Oregon's voters to weigh in on expanded public finance options, and open up discussions on a state bank and public finance system. UFCW 555 looks forward to participating in those discussions.

UFCW 555 has no concerns with the resolution as written, and appreciates the opportunity to bring this decision to the voters and allow the people of Oregon to weigh in on the creation of a state bank and show their representatives that they are interested in a new financial system.

We urge your aye vote.

Sincerely,

Madison Walters  
Political Liaison  
UFCW Local 555

**UNITED FOOD & COMMERCIAL WORKERS LOCAL 555**

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