January 30, 2023

To the Oregon State Legislature:

I am happy to write in strong support of House Bill 2459. This bill will take a major step to help stabilize the Oregon arts economy and ecology in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Although our organization, the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at the University of Oregon, will not benefit directly from funds allocated by the bill, we will benefit from the increased health of the overall Oregon arts ecosystem. Strengthening larger and smaller arts organizations, ranging from the Shakespeare Festival and Portland Art Museum to much smaller organizations, this bill will help.

I urge our elected representatives to vote "Yes."

With best regards,

John S. Weber

Executive Director

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art

University of Oregon