



March 2, 2023

Senate Human Services Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

Dear Committee Members:

RE: SB 606 - Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act

Impact NW asks you to pass SB 606, the Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act. Your support is critical to the health of the nonprofit sector and the communities we serve.

Impact NW has been in the community for nearly 60 years working on our community's most pressing needs. Our mission is to prevent homelessness. In doing so, we work with 22,000 people a year in the Portland-Vancouver area with stabilizing and strengthening services to keep people housed. Our staff are on the frontlines of the housing and homelessness crisis, and pandemic recovery to help people access services such as housing, rental and energy assistance, other basic needs, and upstream supports so they can thrive.

The State has a responsibility to provide a safety net for the public. Never has that responsibility been more urgent. The State fulfills this responsibility by contracting with nonprofits. But it's not properly funding them, and by extension not living up to its responsibility. For this reason, Passing SB 606 is important to nonprofits like Impact NW. We are under extreme pressure to offer and scale up our critical services yet face major challenges with the constraints of our government contracts.

The following components of SB 606 will positively impact our organization and the communities we serve:

- Eliminating reimbursement as a form of payment for state grants
- Requiring disbursement of contract funds within 30-days of signed contract
- Creating the Nonprofit Workforce Retention Fund to provide grants nonprofits to help maintain and prevent employee turnover
- Creating a state task force to reform nonprofit contracting in order to streamline and simplify the process, raise wages, and create an ecosystem of administrative policies, statutes and funding levels that lead to sustainable government/nonprofit partnerships)

Impact NW appreciates your consideration of SB 606. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Andy Nelson
Executive Director, Impact NW