



March 6, 2023

State of Oregon Legislature  
Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem OR 97301

Re: *Support of Senate Bill 451*

Dear Committee Members:

The Crook County Fairgrounds urges your support for Senate Bill 451 to continue funding for the Oregon State Lottery allocated to County Fairs. In the past year, the Crook County Fairgrounds and the Oregon State Fair stepped up when our communities needed them the most. Through the global pandemic and wildfire relief efforts our Fairgrounds were transformed overnight into testing centers, makeshift hospitals, shelters for thousands of people and animals, and vaccination clinics.

Meanwhile, most of our fairs, youth education events, cultural festivals, trade shows and expositions, equestrian events, craft & hobby shows, consumer shows, non-profit fundraisers, and community social events were severely restricted. This left counties and their fairgrounds financially strapped and ineligible for most federal COVID relief funding.

SB451 will eliminate an old funding cap put in place years ago and provide stable funding and investment for the future.

The Crook County Fairgrounds encourages you to continue your commitment to County Fairgrounds by eliminating the funding gap and funding the capital needs infrastructure study so that we can make sure fairgrounds are ready for the future.

Sincerely,

Casey Daly  
Crook County Fairgrounds Manager