

Submitter: Raeline Kammeyer

On Behalf Of: Clackamas County Fair Improvement Foundation

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Measure: HB2948

I am very much in support of this House Bill 2948. In Clackamas County the fairgrounds has been a designated emergency destination not only for Clackamas County, but also for Multnomah County during the Eagle Creek Fire. We have served as emergency evacuation center not only for fires, but also for natural disasters that occur in the Metro Area. We lost our main building due to ice/snow and are struggling to rebuild and replace the structure for the residence of Clackamas County and surrounding area. We have had to resort to renting a tent to shelter the livestock during our annual fair. We have no power outlets, sewer infrastructure or water hook ups for motor homes or travel trailers that evacuees needed and requested during the Riverside Fire. We are also limited in shower facilities to serve the evacuees by having only 4 showers on the entire fairgrounds. We are a self funded operation that have to earn all of our money to repair buildings, maintain all of the facilities, hire our own employees and basically do it all to keep the fairgrounds open as a community resource. Yes, we do receive lottery funds and TRT(Transient Room Tax), but those monies do not cover the cost of our operation. The TRT income was reduced due to COVID shutdown that we all experienced. The need for cooling shelters was realized when we experienced the Heat Dome that affected our area. We have only one public building that has only one bathroom in it that has air conditioning that can house up to 95 people. We have another building with air conditioning that can house up to 20 people with one bathroom that is used for our command/first aid center during fair. There are no generators on the fairgrounds, so if the power is out, we go dark. The Clackamas County Fair and Event Center meets all the parameters under consideration for HB 2948.. Thank you, Raeline Kammeyer