Submitter: Terri Stephens

On Behalf Columbia County Fairgrounds

Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General

Government, and Veterans

Measure: HB2948

To whom it may concern,

March 24, 2023

As a rural town, our fairgrounds is the most practical place to send displaced people in the event of an emergency. However, as a rural area we do not get a lot of funding for the up keep and improvements of our properties, that are needed to facilitate the needs of displaced persons and or animals.

Allowing us to receive more monies for these improvements would not only help maintain our fairgrounds, but also help provide safe places for our communities to go during drastic times. I know that we are not the only ones that are in the same situation as our fairgrounds. Our builds are over 50 years old. They have been patched and neglected throughout the years. Most of our roofs leak. Just to mention some of the issues needed.

To be able to update our facilities would be a wonderful asset not only for ourselves but to our community. To our children that are in 4 H, the grange, our community garden, the campers for the fair. The list really does go on and on.

I ask you to consider all that could be impacted on your decisions with this vote. Keep the moral and goodness that the fairgrounds represents along with community, strong and help us keep it going for years to come.

Sincerely,

Terri Stephens 541 570 3069 (cell) PO BX 183, St. Helens, Or 97051 Jacknterri10@yahoo.com