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Co-Chairs Senator Girod and Representative Holvey
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Subcommittee on Capital Construction
Salem, Oregon. 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Girod, Holvey and Members of the Subcommittee,

I am writing on behalf of the Very Little Theatre to express our strong support for the entire slate of projects being considered for funding through the 2023-25 CREF program. We want to commend the thoroughness of the process that you have gone through to review and select the projects for funding, and thank our policymakers for their strong support of the project.

We are particularly grateful for the opportunity to be part of this slate, and we are pleased to see that our project, which involves improvements to our building to allow community groups in Eugene to acquire performance space, has received so much interest. Our organization has been working hard to bring the project to fruition, and we are thrilled to have the chance to secure the necessary funding through CREF.

We are confident that our project will have a positive impact on the community and the local economy. Our proposed improvements will allow us to produce high-quality theatrical productions that will attract visitors and support local businesses. The expansion of our shop construction space will enable usage of the stage by a wide variety of groups seeking space to perform while allowing us to build and store our sets offstage for our productions. We have been approached by children's theatre groups and other community groups needing use of the venue, including Rose Children's Theatre, the Eugene Area Chamber of Commerce, NextStep Dance, the Shelton-McMurphy Johnson House, and Miss Lane County Scholarship Competition. We expect that this expansion dramatically will increase the overall benefits of the theatre to the community.

We are proud to have the support of policymakers in our community, including local officials and elected representatives. We believe that our project aligns with the state's priorities for economic development, community building, and the arts.

In conclusion, we urge the Subcommittee to approve the full slate of projects being considered for funding through CREF, including our own project. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Ron Evans
Executive Director
Very Little Theatre