

**PLEASE PASS HB4124 and Make This Museum Possible!**



Dear Senator or Representative,

My name is Kay Heflin, and I am President of the Rainier Oregon Historical Museum. The Rainier Oregon Historical Museum is one of 14 CREF/CACO capital slate of projects that were unfunded in 2023. We are requesting funding for all 14 projects in the passage of HB4124. Through hard work, our museum has raised 74% of our building funds. Receiving the \$500,000 CREF grant will bring us within reach of fully funding our museum which is currently housed in one room inside our 100-year-old Rainier City Hall. Our contractor is prepared to break ground this spring on the property ROHM owns. We desperately need a new museum.

Our museum had to close the week before Christmas when the City Clerk's office moved into our space while repairs from water damage were being made in the city clerk's office. It is still undetermined when our museum can re-open.

It will cost only \$7.8 Million to fund all 14 CREF projects in HB4124.

Oregon's *nonprofit* arts industry alone generates \$687 million in economic activity annually and generates \$53 million in local and state government revenue. [Ref. Americans for Arts, AEP6]

Each project funded will be an important investment in returns for our state economy, tourism, and community livability.

Arts and Culture drives tourism and revenue to local businesses in the form of meals, shopping, and lodging; a vital income for local businesses.

By supporting passage of HB4124 you will ensure our arts will survive and communities throughout the entire state of Oregon will benefit.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the board of the Rainier Oregon Historical Museum,

Kay Heflin, President