

Submitter: Philip Mandel

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Economic Development and Small Business

Measure: HB4124

Members of the Committee,

I am **STRONGLY** in favor of HB 4124 which includes almost \$1 million for the Oregon Symphony, another \$1.3 million for Portland Opera, Portland Center Stage, and Oregon Ballet Theatre combined, and over \$13 million for a direct granting program for other Oregon cultural organizations.

As a musician myself as well as arts supporter and frequent attendee, I know first-hand the emotional and life-changing benefits of the arts. I was lucky to be the beneficiary of music exposure as a youngster complete with piano lessons, being dragged by my Mom to concerts I didn't appreciate at the time but I **DO NOW**, surrounded by music on a daily basis. Today, part of my income comes from piano performance, plus I give pro bono concerts from time to time to support non-profit organizations.

I urge you to vote **YES** on HB 4124. Thank you for your consideration.