Submitter:	Geoffrey Elkins
On Behalf Of:	
Committee:	Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction
Measure:	HB5201

I'm a proud and passionate resident of Hillsboro, and absolutely understand what the Hillsboro Hops mean to this community. My involvement with the Hops really came to me in 2022, when the opportunity to work for them in a seasonal role began. For me, interacting with local fans who are also passionate baseball fans like myself, was incredibly beneficial. There is a spirit and positive energy between the Hillsboro community, and the Hillsboro Hops organization, a connection that is important to local schools, and also community outreach programs. The Hops are a nationally recognized and admired minor league organization that impacts our community, and few others can compare.

This special connection was vitally important to me, especially after surgery and being laid off from an IT job. Being able to go to the ballpark was beneficial to my mind and body. With that being said, I'm here to tell you that helping to fund the remaining amount needed, will forever make positive impacts locally, and at the state level. The State of Oregon can invest monies into sports stadiums new construction projects that create jobs and will be an everlasting positive connection for local communities, not to mention the tax benefits for the state.

Thank you, Geoffrey Elkins