



**Councilor Jamie Dunphy**  
City of Portland, Oregon

February 16, 2025

Chair Daniel Nguyen  
House Committee on Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade

RE: Support for HB 3189

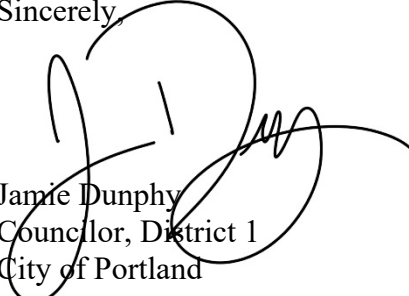
Dear Chair Nguyen and members of the committee,

I write to you in support of HB 3189-1. As a musician, artist, and newly elected Portland City Councilor, I understand intimately the vital role music, art, and culture play to the success of our region. This bill supports the pillar arts organizations that serve as the backbone of Portland's arts economy. They drive economic growth, attract visitors and neighbors, and play a central role in the vibrancy of our entire community.

Portland City Council and the State Legislature are up to meeting the serious challenges on our streets. But our whole-of-government response cannot solely focus on responding to the bad things. We must invest in creating community, economic activity, and a sense of place. Neighbors must feel proud of where they call home, and we that by expanding opportunities for the community to flourish. Music, art, and culture are tools to accomplish community building. We have not seen the return of audiences to pre-pandemic levels, and arts organizations are struggling to financially stay afloat.

The Portland City Council will play a leading role in activating public spaces, encouraging positive, family-friendly opportunities to live, work, and play, and to intentionally create the type of community we deserve. Approval of HB 3189 will provide a needed lifeline for these organizations to entertain and inspire while we simultaneously respond to the serious challenges facing our region.

Sincerely,

  
Jamie Dunphy  
Councilor, District 1  
City of Portland