

Submitter: Nicole Early
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1110
Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Nicole Early, and I am the founder of EARLY PR, a Black woman-owned business headquartered in Portland. I am here today as a small business owner to voice my strong support for SB 110.

Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, yet too often, entrepreneurs—particularly those in historically marginalized communities—lack the resources, training, and space to grow and sustain their businesses. SB 110 is an opportunity to change that by investing in the Williams & Russell CDC business hub, which will provide critical professional development, workforce training, and economic support in Portland’s Albina neighborhood.

For businesses like mine, access to affordable space, networking opportunities, and skill-building resources are game changers. A business hub in Albina would not only support emerging businesses but also contribute to a stronger local economy by fostering entrepreneurship and job creation where it's needed most.

This investment is not just about infrastructure—it’s about equity, sustainability, and ensuring that Black- and minority-owned businesses can thrive in a city that benefits from their success. I urge you to pass SB 110 and help make this vision a reality.

Thank you for your time and consideration.