

April 2, 2025

Chair Jama, Vice Chair Bonham, Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 952.

I'm writing today as a private citizen who cares deeply about fair and full representation for our state. Not every Oregonian has to follow the day-to-day workings of Congress, but we do trust that our U.S. Senators are there, working hard on our behalf—voting on national legislation, bringing home federal resources, and helping constituents navigate complicated systems.

If one of Oregon's Senate seats were to suddenly become vacant, the ripple effects would be real. We'd lose our voice during high-stakes votes. We'd lose key advocacy on federal issues that matter to us—from wildfire recovery and housing to education, health care, and rural infrastructure. And many communities that rely on help from Senate offices—veterans, seniors, small business owners—could be left without the support they've come to count on.

Senate Bill 952 is a practical and responsible step. It gives the governor authority to ensure that Oregon always has two voices in the U.S. Senate, even in the case of an unexpected vacancy. It's not about politics—it's about making sure our state isn't sidelined when the stakes are high.

I urge your support of this bill. Thank you for your time and for your service to Oregon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Mahr", enclosed within a large, loopy, oval-shaped scribble.

Dan Mahr

Hood River, Oregon