

Dear Senate Committee On Rules,

RE: Senate Bill 602 - Task Force on Modernizing Nonprofit Grant Funding and Contracting Recommendations

The Urban League of Portland joins with Oregon's nonprofits to ask you to support the <u>recommendations of</u> <u>the state Task Force on Modernizing Grant Funding and Contracting</u> by passing Senate Bill 602. The recommendations are designed to improve the process and outcomes of government grants and contracts by empowering nonprofits to deliver critical services efficiently and cost effectively to Oregonians.

The Urban League of Portland is a community-based organization that (INSERT DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION'S WORK). Our mission is to empower African-Americans and others to achieve equality in education, employment, health, economic security and quality of life.

Our organization has experienced the challenges encumbered while working with state to deliver on the contracted programs that our community needs and puts our public dollars to work improving the lives of Oregonians.

Senate Bill 602, if enacted, improves and streamlines how government grants and contracts are structured and administered. The Bill would make important changes such as:

- Initiating steps to create a new set of ORS/OAR's specifically for grants. This will streamline Oregon's grants management by promulgating a uniform set of guidance for state agencies to follow and allowing for advance payments.
- It requires agencies to track rates of on-time payments of invoices to ensure they meet the payment schedule agreed to in the contract or grant agreement.
- Encourage state agencies to make advance payments for grant funds equivalent to one-quarter of the annual contract value at the start of each new fiscal year both new and ongoing grants.

To review all of the task force's findings and recommendations, we encourage you to read the full report.

We hope that we can count on your leadership in guiding the passage of Senate Bill 602. Thank you.

Sincerely,

