

Submitter: Cate Soulages
On Behalf Of: PSU Performing Arts
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Capital Construction
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5505

Dear Co-Chair Fred Girod, Co-Chair Rob Nosse and Members of the Subcommittee on Capital Construction,

I am writing today to voice strong support for public investment in the academic spaces and community theater that will be part of the City of Portland's exciting new Performing Arts and Culture Center to be sited at Portland State University.

I am well acquainted with the project and believe it will rank as one of our region's most impactful public-private undertakings. It is a hundred-year vision with statewide impact – and Portland State has extended itself in a remarkable way to make this generational opportunity happen for our community.

Creating opportunities for individuals and for cities is exactly what urban universities should be doing. When we as citizens consider what benefits PSU will bring to this important project, we should also be asking ourselves what benefits the project can bring to PSU and the students they serve — because the university's success is in everybody's best interest. This investment is therefore a double win.

The PACC is a long-term investment that will:

- Restore confidence in downtown Portland as a destination for culture, learning, and investment.
- Support PSU students and Oregon's K-12 schools with access to performance and learning spaces.
- Expand Oregon's arts ecosystem with accessible venues for a wide range of artists and audiences.
- Create and protect jobs—more than 2,000 construction jobs and hundreds of long-term arts and venue positions.
- Catalyze development on the only available large-scale site left downtown.

This is a rare opportunity to help reshape Portland's future. Please support PSU's Capital Construction Bond Request and invest in the PACC.

Sincerely,
Cate Soulages