

Submitter: Teresa Alonso Leon
On Behalf Of: Greater Woodburn Opportunity Center
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

April 16, 2025
Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Good afternoon, Co-Chairs Sanchez and Lieber, Vice Chairs, and members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

My name is Teresa Alonso Leon, I am a former State Representative for HD22 and I am currently a lobbyist for the Greater Woodburn Opportunity Center. I am here today in support of a Capital Construction Request to build the Greater Woodburn Opportunity Center: The Greater Woodburn Opportunity Center is part of a bigger vision created by our Woodburn Community to utilize 8 acres of land for affordable housing and to build an intergenerational, multicultural space we call the Greater Opportunity Center that aims to house a childcare center, community gathering space and centralizing resources for our Woodburn Community and our neighboring cities.

I have lived in Woodburn since I was in middle school and I have seen our Woodburn community grow, the whole time I have lived in Woodburn there has been one major thing that has been missing, and that is a Community Center. In fact, Woodburn is one of the only cities our size about 35,000 people without a community center. One of the features that I like most about this project other than its going to be in my neighborhood is that the Greater Opportunity Center is working hard to ensure we are addressing the Childcare dessert issue by making sure it will have a fully functioning child care center and support services for before and after school activities for students.

Woodburn is also home to a large retirement community without space for our elders to come together, this makes it a unique opportunity for our state to invest in an intergenerational, multicultural, multilingual, culturally diverse safe healthy space where our babies, elders and everyone in between can come together in community.

Thank you for your time, and I hope to count on your support of funding the Capital Construction Request.