

Submitter: Elijah Kennedy
On Behalf Of: Portland State Performing Arts Center
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'm writing in strong support of authorizing \$85 million in Article-G Bonds for the Performing Arts + Culture Center (PACC) as part of Portland State's Capital Construction Bond Request. The Portland City Council has committed to building a new, state-of-the-art venue before renovating the seismically vulnerable Keller Auditorium. This new space—to be situated on the PSU campus—will become a key part of a revitalized downtown Portland, creating a thriving arts and education district. The PACC is a long-term investment with statewide impact. It 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 diverse 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.

As a PSU student, I firmly believe that this project will lead to creative opportunities and uplifting spaces for students and the broader community, as well as enhance Portland's downtown renaissance and attract outside investment. I couldn't be more excited to witness the next chapter of Portland.

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

With care,
Elijah