



COMMISSION CHAIR DAVID LOVEALL, District 2, Springfield

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April 22, 2025

Senator Janeen Sollman, Co-Chair
Representative Ricki Ruiz, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education

Dear Senator Sollman and Representative Ruiz,

I write in support for increasing the current service level funding to the Tallwood Design Institute (TDI) by 9.54%, consistent with Oregon Public Universities.

Since it's founding in 2015, TDI—a collaboration between Oregon State University and the University of Oregon—has been instrumental in advancing Oregon's wood products and mass timber industries. TDI's research, innovation, and partnerships with industry professionals have positioned Oregon as a national leader in mass timber design, manufacturing, and construction.

With support from Oregon and additional leveraged federal and industry funding, TDI has delivered significant economic and workforce benefits. Its efforts have led to major federal awards, including \$41.4m EDA Build Back Better grant and a Tech Hub designation. These accomplishments support rural and urban job growth, sustainable forestry, affordable housing innovation, and forest fire risk reduction.

I urge your continued support for this critical work by approving the proposed funding increase for the TallWood Design Institute.

Sincerely,

David Loveall, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners