

Submitter: Al Barkouli

On Behalf Of: Portland State University

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB 5506

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

My name is Al Barkouli, and I am the Chairman and CEO of David Evans and Associates, Inc. As a proud alumnus of Portland State University's Engineering School and a current Board Chair of the PSU Foundation Board of Trustees, I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Portland State University's Performing Arts & Culture Complex proposal.

The PACC will serve as a vibrant cultural hub, providing a premier venue for a wide range of performances, events, and educational opportunities. This will not only enrich our city's cultural offerings but also stimulate economic growth. The construction and ongoing operation of the complex will also create job opportunities and generate sustained economic activity, benefiting the entire state.

My experience with infrastructure projects has shown me the vital role that strategic planning and resource allocation play in the success of such endeavors. The Performing Arts & Culture Center will require meticulous planning, strong partnerships, and a shared commitment to excellence. I am confident that PSU will work with the City of Portland and other partners to deliver this project successfully.

I strongly advocate for the approval of PSU's \$85 million Capital Construction Bond Request. This funding is critical to making this transformative project a reality, ensuring its contribution to Portland's cultural enrichment and economic vitality.

Thank you for your consideration and your service to our community.

Sincerely,

Al Barkouli, Ph.D., P.E.

Chairman and CEO, David Evans and Associates, Inc.

Chair, Board of Trustees, Portland State University Foundation