



**To: Fred Girod, Co-Chair
Rob Nosse, Co-Chair
Members of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction**

**From: Jon Isaacs, Executive Vice-President, Public Affairs
Portland Metro Chamber**

RE: SB 5506 -- Support for Portland State University Performing Arts and Culture Center

The Portland Metro Chamber urges your support for Portland State University's request for \$85 million in Article XI(G) Bond funding to build academic facilities as part of a state-of-the-art Performing Arts and Culture Center.

The Portland Metro Chamber (PMC) is the oldest, largest and most diverse business organization in Oregon and SW Washington, and is the leading voice for business in the region. The Chamber advocates at all levels of government to improve commerce, encourage community development and grow regional economic prosperity. The vibrancy of Portland's Downtown and Central City is integral to the economic strength and vitality of our entire state. A new, fully modernized, central city Performing Arts and Culture Center at Portland State University will provides a once-in-a-century opportunity to create a nationally distinct performing arts and education hub in the heart of downtown Portland.

With the City of Portland committed to replacing the aging and seismically vulnerable Keller Auditorium, this project is not just about replacing a building—it's about transforming our city. Located just blocks from the future renovated Keller, the new Performing Arts Center will anchor a thriving entertainment and education district that restores confidence in downtown Portland and elevates Oregon's statewide arts ecosystem.

The PSU-owned theater, partially funded with this state bond request, will fill a gap in Oregon's performing arts ecosystem. It will ultimately support a broader array of performances serving multi-generational and diverse communities. Thank you for your service and consideration of this request. Portland, and Portland State University, can do big things. We look forward to celebrating the opening of this center with you.