

Support Testimony for HB 5531: Main Street Revitalization Grant

Introduction

HB 5531, which allocates Lottery Bond capital funds, is a vital piece of legislation for community development and revitalization. This Friday, May 9th, a public hearing will take place in the Capital Construction committee to discuss this bill. One of the critical components of HB 5531 is the \$10 million request for the Main Street Revitalization Grant (see page 6 of the bill). This grant stands to make a significant positive impact on communities across the state by fostering economic growth and revitalizing local economies.

Why Support the Main Street Revitalization Grant?

1. Strengthening Local Economies

The Main Street Revitalization Grant is an essential tool for driving economic growth in local communities. By investing in infrastructure improvements, business development, and public amenities, this grant provides the resources necessary for downtown areas to thrive. A vibrant Main Street attracts businesses, retains talent, and fosters a sense of community pride.

2. Restoring Historical and Cultural Assets

Many Main Street areas are home to historical landmarks and cultural assets that define the character of a community. The grant funding allows for the preservation and restoration of these treasures, ensuring they remain integral parts of our towns and cities for generations to come.

3. Encouraging Public and Private Partnerships

The \$10 million request in HB 5531 has the potential to catalyze further investment by leveraging public funds to attract private contributions. This collaboration can exponentially increase the impact of the grant, creating a ripple effect of economic and social benefits.

Call to Action

We urge all supporters to consider submitting testimony in favor of this bill, specifically advocating for the \$10 million allocation to the Main Street Revitalization Grant. Your testimony can emphasize the tangible benefits this funding will bring to your community, such as job creation, preservation of historic architecture, and fostering of vibrant local economies.

How to Submit Your Testimony

- Prepare a written statement that highlights why the Main Street Revitalization Grant is essential.
- Include specific examples of how this funding could benefit your community or similar initiatives that have been successful in the past.
- Submit your testimony to the Capital Construction committee before or during the public hearing on Friday, May 9th.

Conclusion

HB 5531 represents a significant opportunity to make a lasting difference in our communities through the Main Street Revitalization Grant. By supporting the \$10 million request, we can empower local economies, preserve our heritage, and create thriving, sustainable downtowns. Let your voice be heard this Friday—your support can help turn this vision into a reality.