



Date: 5-7-25

To: Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction

From: Dave Winterling, Executive Director, Mt Hood Cultural Center and Museum

Re: SB5531

To the Members of the Joint Subcommittee on Capital Construction,

My name is Dave Winterling, and I'm the Executive Director of the Mt Hood Cultural Center and Museum in Government Camp. I'm here to speak in support of the capital funding proposed in SB5531, and specifically for the \$9.3M in capital funds originally under HB3191 for (13) projects at small museums and arts organizations spread across the state.

Oregon's museums are an important piece of our cultural heritage infrastructure, and as in prior bienniums this CREF funding is targeted to the arts organizations where it will have the highest level of impact.

Our own project for the Mt Hood Cultural Center and Museum is representative of the group of projects. Here's a quick overview:

- Our museum facility was built (30) years ago, originally as a bed-and-breakfast, and converted to a Museum in the year 2000.
- Our facility currently serves as the only public event space in the Government Camp area. We host the local Community Planning Organization (CPO) meetings, the monthly Sanitary District and Roads Commission meetings, and meetings for many other clubs and local organizations as well as our own museum events.
- Many of these meetings are standing-room-only, and this space constraint will become even more of a problem as development and tourism growth continues on the south side of Mt Hood.
- Our museum archive preserves and protects the historic documents, images, and objects of our local history, with a focus on the Forest Service, Barlow Road, Mt Hood alpine recreation, and our historic people, buildings, and communities. We have completely outgrown our existing archive and exhibit space and are therefore no longer able to accept additional donations of historic materials.
- The funding allocated under SB5531 will make it possible to expand and upgrade our archive space, plus open up needed space to accommodate community events.

Thank you very much for your support!