

Submitter: Shannon Bowdle
On Behalf Of: Osborn Aquatic Center funding request
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Capital Construction
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5531

Dear Senators,

My daughter, Alice, is a competitive swimmer and a member of the Corvallis Aquatic Team. She started swimming at 6 months of age in the Waterbabies classes at Osborn Aquatic Center and worked her way up, joining the team at age 8. She is now 15 and an Olympic hopeful, though her future has been compromised by the closing of our home pool. These past 9 months have brought chaos to our team with limited pool time and practices spread across the state. Our swimmers have also had less opportunities to compete without our facility in operation. I am begging you to do everything you can to help save Osborn as it has meant so much to our family over the years.

The pool is more than just the home of a competitive swim club. It also serves our community by employing over 100 workers and supplying the over 700 kids in our town with swimming lessons. It also hosts a variety of fitness classes and warm water therapy sessions for our senior citizens. It is the home of the Special Olympics in Oregon as well as Highschool State Districts and Championships. These events bring in thousands of dollars to our local hotels, shops, and restaurants as hundreds of visitors flock to Corvallis to watch and cheer on their swimmers every year.

Please save Osborn. We need our pool. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Shannon Bowdle