



HONORING *the* AMERICAN SPIRIT  
[www.b17alliance.com](http://www.b17alliance.com)

May 10, 2025

Terry Scott, Executive Director  
B-17 Alliance Foundation  
B-17 Alliance Museum & Restoration Hangar  
SB 5531

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony and request funding to SAVE the Lacey Lady's home.

As the Executive Director of the B-17 Alliance Museum and Restoration Hangar in Salem, I witness multicultural learning daily. We engage over 6,000 people annually, including 1500 students aged 3 to 99. Our programs and outreach provide generational cross-training. Our volunteers, nearly all Veterans, train students, teach them about history, and educate them on STEM education.

This B-17 is one of fewer than 50 remaining in the world. It has the lowest airtime of any B-17 in the world and is one of 10 capable of flying again. The B-17 has a wingspan of 102 feet. You can't purchase parts at the corner market, so every part must be rebuilt. This is all done by volunteers.

B-17 Alliance has a positive impact on our communities. It is a place of hope, education, and inspirational activities. Over a hundred volunteers regularly participate in this once-in-a-lifetime experience. This complex volunteer opportunity has saved many a veteran who was at the end of their rope. Restoring an aircraft is complex, and they are dedicated to its completion.

In addition, we share the personal stories of our Greatest Generation: the men, women, and even children who demonstrate characteristics that foster unity in the community. They never gave up; they did what they had to do, and many made the ultimate sacrifice. This was a time when we all pulled together for a common cause. These stories are the tools we need to build community, bring hope to one another, and give purpose to thousands of people's lives.

B-17 Alliance was formed in 2006 to save these stories so that we would Never Forget the sacrifices made for our freedom.

The process of restoring one of the few remaining B-17 Flying Fortress aircraft from World War II quickly became a pathway for diversity and community connection. The **Home of the Lacey Lady**, provides hope, education, inspiration, and a place to gather and gain purpose for life.

We are an Alliance of people who care. We represent a broad spectrum of community members and nationalities and have a unique ability to teach all ages.

***B-17 ALLIANCE MUSEUM & RESTORATION HANGAR C'***

3278 25th Street SE, Salem, Oregon 97302

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Our outreach celebrates history, traditions, and values that unite people of all walks of life. It is a way to feel a sense of belonging and pride in our community and our state. Supporting our state's cultural organizations is crucial to ensuring our vitality and quality of life.

B-17 Alliance is fiscally responsible and has broad community support. However, we need your help. The Campaign to SAVE the Lacey Lady's home is \$800,000. We have raised 52%. The requested \$350,000 will complete this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to purchase our hangar at a reduced price. Currently, we are paying 8.5% interest to hold the hangar. This is an extraordinarily large amount, and we need to put these funds toward programs that enhance our mission to serve the community.

**In comparison, this is a small ask that will make a big impact.**

**Please support SB 5531 for the B-17 Alliance Foundation in full.**

Your help is crucial to the longevity and sustainability of B-17 Alliance.

As an Alliance, we collaborate with many non-profits. As former entrepreneurs, we understand the need for ROI. Therefore, we work diligently to include others in our success. If awarded these funds, you can be assured that we will work with many more Veterans and Schools to provide a place to gather and learn.

We are building a WWII Education Center that will educate generations to come.

Your support will sustain this unique facility and prepare us for continued growth as Oregon's premier destination point.

Please vote YES on SB 5531

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