

Submitter: Brianna Bay
On Behalf Of: Osborn Aquatic Center
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Capital Construction
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5531

To whom it may concern,

I am writing as a resident of Corvallis, Oregon in support of funding for Osborn Aquatic Center. Osborn has been vital for not only our community, but for our entire state. Prior to closing, it served a purpose of providing water safety skills, a resource for affordable exercise, provided classes for multiple ages and abilities, hosted swim meets for swim teams across the state and provided employment.

Osborn has seen our two daughters through swim lessons and now swim team. With Osborn's closure, coaches have been forced to resort to scheduling pool time in Albany, Philomath, Timberhill Athletic Club, Dixon at OSU and the Women's Building at OSU. The uncertainty of practice schedule has been difficult, and is not sustainable long term for parents or the other facilities, which have their own demand.

Parents of children that were taking swim lessons have not been as fortunate - there is no coach to advocate for pool time on their behalf. They are flat out missing access to water safety and vital water time to learn how to swim. With the Willamette River running through our town and the Pacific Ocean an hour away, lack of an aquatic center is problematic.

Thank you for your time,

Brianna Bay