

Submitter: Kai Dhakhwa

On Behalf Of: Osborn Aquatic Center

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction

Measure: SB5531

My name is Kai Dhakhwa, and as a former member of the Corvallis Aquatic Team and a former employee at the Osborn Aquatic Center, I've seen firsthand how essential this facility is to the heart of the Corvallis community. The Osborn Aquatic Center isn't just a pool, it's a place where people of all ages and backgrounds can come together to converse and grow, and people make connections whilst simultaneously improving their health. Whether it's young kids learning to swim, seniors staying active through water aerobics, or competitive athletes training, this facility provides a safe, inclusive, and motivating space. It encourages healthy lifestyles, but does so in a way that feels fun and social rather than like a chore. The Osborn Aquatic Center stands alone as a place that can facilitate physical improvement in such a manner. Rarely will you find the level of excitement people have to go to this facility than any other facility.

This building deserves attention. Its operations go far beyond the financial value; people's hearts are being nourished from participating in events or even just being in the facility. You're not just investing to keep the pool open, what you're contributing to is preserving a community cornerstone, a facility that allows the community of Corvallis to thrive. It's the basis of social and physical prosperity.

Kai Dhakhwa