

Submitter: Brian Hunter

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB110

My name is Brian Hunter, I'm a former Major League Baseball Player and High School Coach.

I was born in Portland, raised in Vancouver, then drafted by the Houston Astros out of High School.

Even though I live across the river from Oregon, my whole life has been intertwined with being a part of the greater Portland-Vancouver metro area.

So what happens here in Salem does have an impact on me and other SW Washingtonians.

When I heard the Portland Diamond Project signed the LOI to bus Zidell Yards for the site of a future professional Baseball stadium, I was very excited.

Yes being a Washingtonian I do root for the Mariners. Playing a season with them might have something to do with that, but I wanna root for a team in my hometown.

I would to cross the river into Portland to watch games instead having to drive 3 hours up to Seattle.

Being part of MLB, I know how committed the league is to giving back to communities they're in.

More importantly, an MLB franchise in Portland will be the center of inspiration for thousands of young baseballs and softball players in Oregon and SW Washington.

SB 110 is an investment in building a stadium and in the culture of the greater region.

At a time when our young people are facing so much adversity in so many different communities, having the ability to go to a game, meet the players they aspire to be has a far greater impact.

Even though I might not be one of your constituents, your decisions make an impact that goes beyond state borders.

So with that, please pass SB 110 and help inspire young people across our region.