



May 15, 2025

TO: Members of the House Committee on Revenue

FR: Derek Sangston, Oregon Business & Industry

RE: Support for SB 110

Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chair Reschke, Vice-Chair Walters, members of the House Committee on Revenue. For the record, I am Derek Sangston, policy director and counsel for Oregon Business & Industry (OBI).

OBI is a statewide association representing businesses from a wide variety of industries and from each of Oregon's 36 counties. If applicable: In addition to being the statewide chamber of commerce, OBI is the state affiliate for the National Association of Manufacturers and the National Retail Federation. Our 1,600 member companies, more than 80% of which are small businesses, employ more than 250,000 Oregonians. Oregon's private sector businesses help drive a healthy, prosperous economy for the benefit of everyone.

OBI is proud to support SB 110, which is a smart and effective step forward in the effort to bring major league baseball to Oregon.

An MLB team would mean positive economic and community benefits for the Portland Metro region and beyond. From the construction of a ballpark to daily operations, and from dozens of home games and other events to the tourism brought from outside Oregon's borders, the addition of an MLB team would create \$5 billion in new economic activity in the region.

This is a unique opportunity for the state and SB 110 is a vital piece of the package. Importantly, this piece comes at no cost to Oregon taxpayers. By updating an existing funding structure to account for today's needs, we can leverage the opportunity and generate the resources necessary for large-scale investment and real economic development.

Oregon is home to an extraordinary sports tourism ecosystem and SB 110 would only help bolster it. State investment and support to enhance the benefits offered to Oregonians and the economy through our existing ecosystem and through the addition of an MLB team is just smart policy. It would add to infrastructure that generates foot traffic, tourism, economic activity, and more broadly it leads to opportunity, excitement and a sense of community. Whether that exists at Zidell Yards, in NE or SW Portland, or from fans from all corners of Oregon.

We urge your support for SB 110. Thank you for your consideration.

Contact: dereksangston@oregonbusinessindustry.com