

TRAVIS NELSON
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
HOUSE DISTRICT 44
NORTH/NORTHEAST PORTLAND



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Testimony in Support for Senate Bill 110

Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chair Reschke, Vice-Chair Walters and Members of the House Committee on Revenue,

My name is Travis Nelson, State Representative for House District 44, North and Northeast Portland. I'm here today not just in support of SB 110, but in deep belief in what it represents, a chance to set a new dream in the City of Portland and in our state.

Portland has had a rough stretch. We've felt it in our neighborhoods, in our storefronts and in our headlines. But I believe that the Rose City is rising again. Not with quick fixes or shiny promises, but through intentional investments that bring us together, not pull us apart.

Bringing Major League Baseball to this state really is not just about sports. It's about new belonging. It is about giving Oregon a new living room, and one built to host all walks of life in and around the ballpark and for both work and play. A space where families from Woodburn to St. Johns, from Gresham to Hillsboro and from all the deepest parts of our state can come together not despite our differences, but because of them.

Imagine it: an elementary child catching their first game under bright lights. A food vendor, who had a food cart in Old Town, now running a thriving business in the stadium concourse. A grand stage for local musicians, drag performers, and cultural festivals where the rhythm of Portland is as alive outside the game as it is on the field.

To be clear, this bill does not saddle taxpayers with a looming bill, and Oregon will not be on the hook if something goes awry. What it will do is create a new revenue stream, as all the tax on MLB players and employees will be directed to Oregon General Fund, generating economic momentum for both Portland and the state. This is not a curveball—it's a win-win.

I see a tremendous opportunity here. An opportunity for business and organized labor can come together to grow our state economy, where current and future small business will be inspired and encouraged to thrive alongside each other. And this will be a ballpark for all of us.

This moment is too big to let pass us by. SB 110 is a signal to MLB and the nation. Oregon is here. Oregon is strong. And Oregon is ready to play ball. I urge the committee to pass SB 110.

Thank you,

State Representative Travis Nelson
House District 44, North/NE Portland