



**UNION COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on funding requests of the Oregon Legislature (SB5701), bond authorization.

I am in full support of Grande Ronde Hospital's request for The **da Vinci Surgical System**, a robotic surgical system that uses a minimally invasive surgical approach. The system is used for prostatectomies, routine and complex gynecological procedures, and generally is well-suited for a community hospital like GRH, with its robust surgical teams. While this equipment is great for routine and complex gynecological procedures, it would also be instrumental in attracting an OB/GYN to Union County, especially as access to maternal health services becomes even more of a challenge in Eastern Oregon. GRH's maternity ward rate has grown by 30% in the past few years. The quality of care at GRH is second to none. The recent expansion of Grande Ronde Hospital's facilities further demonstrates its commitment to our County and region. This additional purchase will enhance the positive outcomes for patients with local treatment and assist in recruitment efforts for surgeons who are trained on the da Vinci Surgical System. I am looking forward to a time that this equipment is in OUR hospital, strengthening "Big City Medicine. Hometown Touch". The following is much more than a slogan; it is a widely held belief and a constant method of patient care:

Since 1907, Grande Ronde Hospital has made the health and well-being of the people of Union County our priority. With our roots as deep as the mountains that define the place we call home, our passion to heal is still fueled by the same independent spirit of those who first settled here.

We are proud to serve the region by providing an expansive list of medical care and specialties, patient care services and education, and the latest in medical technology often found only in large, urban hospitals. We do this because we firmly believe that protecting your health, and helping our communities thrive, is not just our job—it's our heritage.

As a GRH Foundation member as well as a frequent patient, I can assure you that an investment in Grande Ronde Hospital is an investment in our county and region. Please feel free to reach out if I can provide any clarification about this much-needed request.

Sincerely,

Paul Anderes

