



Josephine County Fairgrounds & Event Center

1451 Fairgrounds Road
Mailing Address: 215 Ringuette Street
Grants Pass, OR 97527
Office: 541-476-3215

Email: tmartin@josephinecounty.gov
fairgrounds@josephinecounty.gov
www.josephinecountyfairgrounds.com

March 2, 2026

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Josephine County Fairgrounds, I am writing to express our strong support for Oregon SB 1601 with the 3 amendments.

As a year-round community asset, the Fairgrounds across the state serve as economic drivers for their local communities, gathering places for education, youth development, local business promotion, emergency response support, and community events. Legislation such as SB 1601 represents an important investment in the long-term sustainability and vitality of facilities like ours that serve both rural and regional communities.

County fairgrounds across Oregon play a critical role in preserving our state's agricultural heritage while contributing to local economic development. Our events support small businesses, create seasonal and part-time employment opportunities, and generate tourism-related revenue for surrounding communities. Strengthening policies that ensure stable operations, infrastructure improvements, and future planning capacity is essential for maintaining these public benefits.

SB 1601 will help provide the stability and support needed for fairgrounds to continue operating as safe, accessible, and financially sustainable public spaces. We respectfully urge your support for this important legislation.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued commitment to Oregon's local economy, community and the time tested agricultural and community institutions in our local Fairgrounds.

Sincerely,

Tamra Martin
Director