

In Support of SB 1601, removing the \$1.53 million cap to the County Fair Account.

I first participated in my county fair in 1967 as a ten year old. The fair gave a shy, awkward kid an opportunity to learn skills and gain confidence that has made me the community leader I have become. Not only do fairs provide such benefits to youth, but serve as a vital year round resource in the communities. The fairgrounds serve as a hub for events that create and foster community in ways that cannot be lost. This includes being open to staging centers during disasters such as fire operations and vaccine centers during the pandemic.

Many of the county fairs are struggling to remain in operation. Please vote to support SB 1601.

Larry Smith, President  
Friend of the Multnomah County Fair  
Portland, Oregon