

Chairman and Members of the Committee

My name is William Bradley. I am the Event Producer for Westlake Promotion Inc.

Our Company has been producing Consumer Show Events at the Oregon State Fair and Exposition Center for 35 years. Specifically, the Oregon Manufactured Home Show and both the Fall and Spring Oregon State Salem RV Shows. Our Events utilize the Jackman Long Building, Columbia Hall, and the surrounding Outside Event Space areas. Our rental fees over that time on just these Events alone have produced nearly 2 and a half million dollars in revenue for the Expo Center. These are more than just Events to us. This is our business and our livelihood supporting myself and our staff and of course bringing millions of dollars to the local economy as well. Also important is that the Local Businesses that participate in our Fairgrounds Events count on these Events to generate as much as 50% of their business for the entire year.

As a Tenant of the Fair and Exposition Center, Westlake Promotion supports SB7 provided the Bill is given full support to succeed by first addressing the following.

1. Due to the experience, expertise, and learning curve involved with managing any successful Fair and Expo Center, a minimum transition period of 3 to 5 years for the State Fair Council to stand on their own would be realistic.
2. The deferred maintenance currently necessary at the Fairgrounds will need to have a named funding source and maintenance schedule in place before the State Fair Council is in place.
3. During that 3 to 5 year transition period any financial shortfalls in operational costs or other would need a funding source as well.

Senate Bill 7, only with the necessary points mentioned, would have a very good chance of success and would be a great direction towards the Oregon State Fair and Exposition Center becoming financially sustainable.