



**National Trust for  
Historic Preservation**  
*Save the past. Enrich the future.*

February 18, 2015

Re: Testimony in support of SB 131 hearing on Feb 18, 2015

To: James Labar, Committee Administrator [james.labar@state.or.us](mailto:james.labar@state.or.us)

Dear Senators Beyer, Girod, Monroe, Riley and Thomsen

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, a privately-funded non-profit organization, works to save America's historic places. We wholly endorse approval of SB 131, establishing a state Task Force to address the repair and reopening of the Willamette Falls Locks, thereby opening the entire Willamette River to navigation for commercial and recreational use.

In 2012, the National Trust selected the 1873 Willamette Falls Locks as a National Treasure. National Treasures are beloved places that reveal the richness and diversity of our shared American story. These irreplaceable historic places reflect our past and have the potential to enrich our future, but they are endangered as never before. The National Trust for Historic Preservation is taking direct action that leverages our significant preservation, advocacy, legal, marketing, and fundraising expertise to help save the Willamette Falls Navigation Canal and Locks.

We are working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, One Willamette River Coalition and other local partners to see the Willamette Falls Canal and Locks repaired and reopened for regular use for commerce, recreation, and tourism.

We encourage your adoption of SB 131 and look forward to working with you to ensure that the Locks have an active and productive role in the future of our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peggy M. Sigler".

Peggy M. Sigler  
Oregon Field Officer

**Oregon Field Office**

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