

Governor Kate Brown
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street, Room 254
Salem, OR 97301

February 4, 2016

Senate President Peter Courtney
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street, S-201
Salem, OR 97301

House Speaker Tina Kotek
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street, Room 269
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 4146

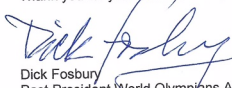
Dear Governor Brown, President Courtney, Speaker Kotek, and Members of the Legislature:

My name is Dick Fosbury and I am a native Oregonian and Olympic Gold Medalist in the Men's high jump at the 1968 Mexico City Games, writing in support of HB 4146. I am known as a person who thinks outside the box, as an innovator. In 1963 I began creating a new way to high jump and by 1968 my technique, became known as the "Fosbury Flop". I know what it is to look at something that everyone else takes for granted and envision how it can be made better. As we look toward the opportunity represented by the 2021 World Championships I believe we have the chance to do just that. We can take the rich history of TrackTown USA and of all of Oregon's outstanding contributions to this sport and present the world with something they have never experienced before: a Championships on American soil for the first time and in the most iconic running stadium on earth, historic Hayward Field.

I was fortunate to be born in Portland, growing up as an athlete during the golden era of track and field in Oregon. I have a personal stake in the legacy I so often hear discussed, and still remember the honor of "Dick Fosbury Day" by the Oregon Legislators in February, 1969. I know that this event is a winning idea for the state of Oregon as I have heard from my iconic friends and fans I have met at the Olympic Games and World Championships who cannot wait to come to the United States in 2021. We are proud Oregonians, all over the world.

This unique gift that we have to offer the world through running and track & field has grown in ways I never imagined it would as a 21 year old Oregon Stater chasing his dreams. By supporting the legislation up for vote this February you have the opportunity to write a new chapter in the story we began so long ago – a chapter for this time, for these kids and for these communities. Let's extend this legacy to the next generation!

Thank you for your consideration,



Dick Fosbury
Past President World Olympians Association
Vice President United States Olympians and Paralympians Association
130 Glendale Road
Bellevue Idaho 83313