



**522 SW Fifth Ave. Suite 812 Portland, OR 97204**

Ways and Means Subcommittee on General Government

SB 5501 – Advocacy Commission Budget

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Co-Chairs, members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 5501, the budget bill for the Oregon Advocacy Commission (OAC) Office.

The mission of the Oregon Law Center (OLC) is to “achieve justice for the low-income communities of Oregon by providing a full range of the highest quality civil legal services.” OLC has been engaged in working with the legislature, state agencies, and community allies over the years on the important issues of equity and inclusion.

I have been impressed with the way the OAC has worked successfully in providing assistance and support to the commissions of: Asian and Pacific Islanders Affairs; Black Affairs; Hispanic Affairs; and the Commission for Women.

The efforts of the many volunteers and commission members have been an important part of achieving impressive results in Oregon. OLC has partnered with the Advocacy Commission, and we look forward to additional collaboration in the future. We very much appreciate the advocacy work and leadership development. As the demographics in Oregon continue to change, it is critical that we keep up with the challenges and opportunities of our diversity.

We urge your support of OAC’s modest but essential budget.

Thank you for your consideration. I greatly appreciate your leadership and commitment to Oregon and to all Oregonians.