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May 11, 2017

To: **Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction**

From: George A. Polisner

Submitted to: [jwmcc.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:jwmcc.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov)

Re: **SB 5505** In support of: Oregon Coast Community College, Lincoln County Oregon, Workforce Education and Resiliency Center, \$8 million Article XI-G State Bonding (to be matched dollar for dollar by local resources).

Dear Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction,

Oregon-based Civic Works is in full support of Oregon Coast Community College's planned new Workforce Education and Resiliency Center at their Newport campus.

When developing Civic Works, our relationship with Oregon Coast Community College was a key factor in forming and building our policy and technology team in Lincoln County, Oregon. I view OCCC as being vital to diversifying the Lincoln County workforce so we have greater resilience during periods of economic retrenchment. I find OCCC leadership in possession of a dynamic vision for partnering with the local community combined with the experience to implement the vision successfully.

OCCC's new Workforce Education building will help to address critical workforce gaps in Lincoln County and the surrounding region. Envisioned career focused education programs for the new facility align well with Lincoln County workforce gaps in living wage jobs essential to the economic and civic vitality of our region. These programs include Emergency Preparation & Management; Maritime Technicians; Applied Technology (Trades); and P-12 Teacher Education.

We are also strongly in support of the secondary role of the building, to serve as a resiliency and recovery center for Lincoln County south of the Yaquina Bridge in the event of a catastrophic event. The building itself, along with the trained professionals and students that may be at the college at the time of an event, could be essential in immediate and longer term recovery. This is the type of visionary and collaborative thinking envisioned in the Oregon Resilience Plan (2013), which states *planning for reconstruction and recovery must be done now to provide a strategic vision for restoring the economy and livability of the Oregon coast.*

We appreciate your efforts toward this endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George A. Polisner", written in a cursive style.

George A. Polisner, Director, [civ.works](http://civ.works) (a project of the Oregon-based 501c3, Civic Works)