

January 29, 2019

Senate Committee on Business and General Government

Senator Chuck Riley, Chair

Senator Fred Girod, Vice-Chair

Senator Mark Hass, Member

Senator Alan Olsen, Member

Senator Michael Dembrow, Member

900 Court St., NE, S-303

Salem, OR 97301

Re: SB 258 - Building Entrepreneurial Capacity in Rural Oregon

Dear Senators Riley, Girod, Hass, Olsen, and Dembrow,

My name is Brandon Steinbeigle and I am an entrepreneur in Portland, Oregon who has benefited from Venture Catalyst support in my community.

I am writing to urge you to support SB 258, a bill to fund a statewide network of Venture Catalysts who would focus on connecting early stage entrepreneurs in Oregon's communities with **people** (mentors & talent), **programs** (workshops & accelerators), **physical assets** (space & equipment), and **capital** (loans & equity).

The name of my start-up company is lendmyauto.com. We provide a platform for our members to share their cars unconditionally at airports and in our local communities eliminating the high costs often associated with traditional car rental. We are a socially driven organization that is passionate about providing, clean, sustainable forms of transportation to those who live without.

In 2018, I connected with Laura Kubisiak, a Venture Catalyst with one of the organizations identified in SB 258 that would build entrepreneurial capacity and support entrepreneurial growth in Oregon by developing regional assets and building a statewide network of resources.

Laura helped me by providing much-needed guidance & mentorship in the early stage of my business and I'm certain she will continue to do so as I navigate the rough waters of entrepreneurship.

With Laura Kubisiak's assistance, lendmyauto.com has been invited to several different events to network with other entrepreneurs as well as meet numerous others who are looking to impact our community in a positive way.

Having Venture Catalyst support available to me has meant that I could get the help I needed to grow my business without having to leave my community, and I get to contribute to boosting its economy and building the foundation for its future.

I encourage you to support SB 258 to ensure Oregon's entrepreneurs have access to resources needed to support and scale our businesses. A statewide network of Venture Catalysts will provide long-term economic stability and growth for all Oregonians.

Respectfully,

Brandon W. Steinbeigle
Founder, lendmyauto