



Metropolitan Group
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Testimony to and in reference to: House Committee on Economic Development

Strategic Communication

RE: HB 2132, Oregon Cultural Trust : Extends sunset for tax credit for contributions to Trust for Cultural Development Account (for 6 years)

Multicultural Engagement

March 30, 2019

Dear Committee Members,

Organizational Development

I am writing as the CEO of an Oregon headquartered company, a creative services industry leader, a volunteer fundraiser and board member for arts organizations and a donor to the Oregon Cultural Trust. **I am urging you to support HB 2132 and to extend the sunset on the tax credit for contributions to Trust for Cultural Development Account for 6 years.**

Resource Development

I have seen the impact of this resource on Oregon's communities from supporting heritage and cultural programming in rural Oregon to greatly diversifying the arts and cultural organizations that receive critical financial support in Portland. The funds provided by the trust often equal the total grants provided by the Oregon Arts commission (doubling support for the arts in our state). Further, the requirement that donors to the trust have already donated directly to arts and cultural organizations, increases philanthropy and creates additional support for vibrant communities across Oregon. This tax credit has had a significant positive impact in Oregon and benefits every community.

HB 2132 has my full support and I urge you to vote to ensure we extend the tax credit.

Thank you for your consideration -

Eric Friedenwald-Fishman
CEO, founder and creative director

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