

Harney County Cultural Coalition

P. O. Box 564, Hines, OR 97738

March 30, 2019

Testimony to and in reference to:

House Committee on Revenue

Re: HB 2132, Oregon Cultural Trust

Extends for tax credit to six years for contributions to Trust for Cultural Development Account.

Dear Committee Members,

The Harney County Cultural Coalition represents a variety of organizations and interests throughout Harney County. Since 2004 we have funded projects by individuals, social groups, art centers, and after-school programs, such as county library art programs for children, Black Powder Rendezvous, a county historical society quilt project, and the chamber music orchestra, to name a few.

Our grantees could not have presented, performed, or played without our support. We, in turn, would not be able to boost culture in the county without Cultural Coalition funding from Oregon Cultural Trust.

HCCC fully supports extending the sunset for tax credit for contributions to the Trust for the Cultural Development Account.

The Trust, through its grant programs creates statewide awareness of the arts, heritage, and the humanities. The benefits to all ages and all aspects of society cannot be over-emphasized. In our community, we have affected the lives of painters, poets, ballet dancers, Paiute language students and cradleboard makers, folks interested in Basque food and dance, and many other cultural projects and events.

We are committed to supporting and enhancing culture in Harney County, and the amount of this work we are able to do can only come with funding by Oregon Cultural Trust.

Please extend the tax credit for six years, to allow contributions to the Oregon Cultural Trust.

Thank you,

Kate Marsh, President copelandmarsh@centurytel.net 541-573-7204