

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to provide some brief background and to ask your support for Senate Bill 666. I introduced this bill at the request of two constituents, former Senator Mike Thorne and Tom Wynn, both are members of the Umatilla County Historical Society.

This legislation would specifically allocate a percentage of funding from the Pacific Wonderland license plates to county historical societies. The legislation would increase the fee of the license plates to \$125. The increase in the license plate fee will maintain the existing allocations to the Oregon State Capitol Foundation and the Oregon Historical Society while ensuring that there are dedicated funds for the county historical museums and societies.

My office and I have worked closely with the Oregon Historical Society in crafting this legislation. We have also reached out the Association of Oregon Counties and they have no concerns with the county component in the legislation. The Oregon Department of Transportation and the Department of Motor Vehicles also see no issues with this legislation.

The State Capital Foundation's funding will not be negatively impacted by SB 666. The fee increase makes sure that they receive the same amount of funding that they have been receiving. I think this legislation will help spread the license plate revenue across the state to help small historical societies from Astoria to Ontario.

I want to thank Co-Chairs Beyer and McKeown for bringing this bill forward. I also want to thank Patrick Brennan for his time and consultation while we drafted this legislation.

Thank you for your time and I urge your support.

Sincerely,

Bill Hansell

State Senator, District #29