

February 7, 2020

Dear Chair Lively,

My name is Hannah Jones. I'm President of Nike Valiant Labs, Nike's New Business Incubator in Portland, and I am writing to you in my personal capacity as an angel investor in female, POC and LGBTQIA founded businesses.

I am writing today in support of HB 4033. I writing to advocate for other entrepreneurs and small business owners because as an investor, I believe that funding businesses built by women, underrepresented groups, rural and veteran entrepreneurs is not just the right thing to do, it's good for business, good for economies, and good for the world.

Over the past years, I have deeply researched and tested the hypothesis that businesses founded by these underrepresented leaders tend to be more sustainable, equitable and reliable. I find systematically that despite the structural inequities they face - a lack of access to capital. networks of powerful advisors and without a backdrop of privilege to underwrite their early forays - these entrepreneurs are the ones building businesses with strong values, high team engagement and cultures of belonging. These are the businesses to bet on.

As I have discussed previously with Governor Brown, Oregon has an incredible opportunity to define itself as the alternative to Silicon Valley by spearheading and scaling these emergent businesses and business leaders.

HB 4033 is a critical lynchpin for Oregon to seize this opportunity for national leadership. With HB 4033 we can not only supporting new businesses that can create employment and growth for Oregon, but also help solidify Oregon as the hub for the Zebra Movement and the hub for new models of leadership and business that benefit not just a few, but many, with lighter footprint on the planet.

Yours sincerely

Hannah Jones