Honorable Senators and Representatives,

2/7/20

I am writing in support of the legislative ask for the children's museum, Kid Time, in Medford, Oregon.

This organization and its programming have demonstrated exemplary levels of competency in their management, program design, and implementation in our community. As an instrument of progress, they've contributed greatly to not only the ongoing quality of life for our community's children and families—but are also an important investment in its future.

From their Master Builder Lego classes to their Superhero training workshops, and their arts, music, and infant programs, Kid Time makes a daily difference in the lives of our youths and the families of which they are part.

The enriching learning environment they provide is accessible to families across the socioeconomic spectrum in our Valley, and they've become a steadfast institution in bridging the social and cultural gaps many children and parents need to fill to find upward mobility toward self-actualization.

This is, in fact, how I became acquainted with Kid Time.

When first moving to the Rogue Valley eight years ago, I was a recently homeless single mother on welfare with a toddler and little means nor community.

Kid Time and its preschool program granted us scholarships for attendance. Through the Kid Time preschool scholarship, I was able to apply for college—I became a Ford Foundation Scholar. I was able to focus on my studies while knowing my daughter was receiving excellent care—I will become a first-generation college graduate. I was able to create a career in social services—I stopped receiving welfare and eventually bought our first home. I was able to become actively involved in my community—I became a Housing Commissioner and, ultimately, the City Councilwoman I am today.

I can say without risk of hyperbole that our lives' trajectory was changed by Kid Time and its programming. I believe many others' lives are changed, as well, and because of this I write you in unwavering support of their organization.

When we support, nurture, and develop the minds and hearts of our youth—it's not only the children who succeed. It's also the families the children are members of and the communities in which the families dwell.

Thank you kindly

Councilwoman Kay Brooks