

February 22, 2021

Dear Chair Wagner, Vice Chair Girod, and members of the committee:

I have worked closely with Sophorn Cheang for several years and with this letter I am honored to convey my gratitude and share what I see as the gifts she will bring as the Director of Business Oregon.

Someone once said that the Governor's office is a wild, stressful and yet rewarding place to work. Sophorn has been a valuable component of what makes it work. She has contributed immeasurably to building the Governor's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion vision. Bringing a commitment to the hard work necessary for the best possible results. I am always impressed with her ability to read people and situations with a great deal of accuracy, and her willingness to work tirelessly to see projects through to completion.

Sophorn, has done a great job triaging the work; deciding what is important and what needs immediate attention versus what must be part of the longer term plan. I am confident that her drive intelligence along with her ability to prioritize projects and recognize that it is impossible to do everything at once, while moving the work forward a few elements at a time. Sophorn will build an agency that is transformative for those individuals and communities left behind.

Sophorn, has embraced the role of director, mentor and leader; I can strongly assure you that we are all better for her guidance and service.

Sincerely,

Serena Stoudamire Wesley  
Chief Cultural Change Officer  
Department of Administrative Services