

Tillamook County Fairgrounds

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To the members of the House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee:

As manager of the Tillamook County Fairgrounds it is my distinct privilege to submit written testimony to you with regard to HB3173.

The Tillamook County Fair is more than just another day of fun activities, great food and carnival rides. The annual fair is a gathering place for the community, promoting Agriculture and Dairy, celebrating our rich heritage, sportsmanship, excellence, within an inclusive culture. Educational features are prominent and celebrated at the Tillamook County Fair giving youth of our future generation an opportunity to establish social interactions with the public, express leadership capabilities in their knowledge and prowess in public speaking and utilizing business skills in creating and seeing a project to completion.

The Tillamook County Fairgrounds is utilized all year round and is an economic driver in our community. The facilities are rented and utilized to raise funds for various service organizations, non-profits, Veterans services, Sheriff Department search and rescue division, DHS and the list goes on. These funds are then turned around and contributed to back to our community. These facilities are vital in allowing the spaces needed to enhance and grow our county economy.

Our Fairgrounds, as are many others around the state, is a dedicated emergency operations site. These facilities have seen their share of flood evacuations, emergency shelter for property fire catastrophes and most recently the wild fires disaster shelters for both animal and human life. We have seen a years' worth of COVID 19 site use for testing, quarantine use and now vaccinations. We work hand in hand with local county officials to provide facilities to accommodate any and all emergency needs to provide the best outcome for the citizens of Tillamook and any others who may pass through our doors.

I am asking for your consideration of HB 3173 to prolong the history of Fairs/Fairgrounds to provide excellent care and service to all by maintaining and preserving our facilities.

Sincerely,

Camy M VonSeggern

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Fairgrounds Manager
Tillamook County Fairgrounds