

Dear Chairs Johnson, Steiner-Hayward, and members of the Committee:

I wholeheartedly support SB 5555 to appropriate funds for the Toledo, Oregon, pool, built in the 1940's and therefore outdated.

I live in Newport but worked as a special education teacher at Toledo High School and would swim laps at the Toledo pool after work. Other years, when the Newport pool was closed for repairs, I utilized the Toledo pool.

Swimming pools are one of the best sources of exercise, stress reduction, recreation, and water safety instruction. People of all ages, from toddlers to senior citizens, benefit from community pools. Pools are a wonderful source of family recreation. Residents of Lincoln County are surrounded by water, and it is imperative that children learn to swim for their safety.

Please support proposed funding for the Toledo pool. Thank you for your attention and support.

Janet Elizabeth Johnson, M.Ed.