

Submitter: neil leeborg
On Behalf Of: goodfoot pub and lounge
Committee: House Committee On Economic Recovery and Prosperity
Measure: HB4040

Good morning and thanks for taking to the time read this. i'm writing to encourage your support for HB 4040. i'm the talent buyer, production manager and co-owner of the goodfoot pub and lounge in Portland. Since our founding in February of 2001, we've hosted thousands upon thousands of live events and concerts, employing hundreds of Oregonians both as full-time employees and as contracted artists and performers. As you can imagine, the pandemic and shut downs have been catastrophic for our industry and the employees who rely on us. Frankly, without the financial support of the federal and state governments that we have received in the last two years, we would be closed, our employees would be laid off and the ripple effect of not covering rent and utilities, etc would lead to a vacant building falling into disrepair.

Music venues are the first businesses to close (either via government mandate or via band/show cancelations during spikes) and the last to open during these times. During the delta spike, our business, which had been re-opened (after much work and expense) for only a month, had to wipe out almost an entire month of events and eat the sunken costs while losing the sales from those shows. we re-opened for a few months only to have Omicron wipe out virtually our entire January music calendar. Now, we are doing shows again but a leery public has been slow to return in great numbers. HB 4040 will help us stay viable, put real \$ in the pockets of our employees and other businesses we partner with and keep the arts ecosystem, one that greatly benefits Oregon financially, healthy and stable. If we lose the venues and the workers who run them, the chances of them coming back are pretty slim.

we appreciate your past support and note it to our workers and customers. we hope you will continue that support during these difficult times.

many thanks for your consideration.

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goodfoot pub and lounge
pdx, or