

Feb. 11, 2022

Oregon State Legislature
Joint Subcommittee on Capital Construction
Ref.: SB 5702

Dear Co-Chairs Sen. Girod and Rep. Holvey:

Sheppard's Equipment, serving Hood River County and the regions agriculture needs for over 100 years writes in support of SB 5702 capital request allocation on behalf of the Agriculture-Technology-Education Alliance (ATEA) in Hood River County.

As a farm "learning lab" for students enrolled in an agricultural program of study Sheppard's and its affiliated farm equipment companies will support the farming education curriculum and production. Our implement training center and relationships with the vocational technology programs at Hood River Valley High School and Columbia Gorge Community College will offer a futures planning platform to ensure our regions agriculture will be at the forefront of farm land efficiencies and sustainability.

Success will help ensure the continuation of family farming in Hood River County and the Mid-Columbia region by equipping new generations with the knowledge, skills and hands-on learning to succeed in the business of farming.

We encourage your support of SB 5702 and the capital funding request.

Sincerely,

Ben Sheppard
VP, Sheppard's Equipment