

HB 2459 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Economic Development and Small Business

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 1/31

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$50,150,000 to Oregon Business Development Department (OBDD) to distribute to Oregon cultural organizations in response to negative impact of COVID-19. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon cultural organization means a public or private entity, whether operated for profit or as a nonprofit organization, that: Has its business headquarters, and operates primarily, in this state; Operates primarily for the purpose of producing, promoting or presenting the arts, culture, humanities, heritage or live cultural entertainment, other than adult entertainment, to the public; and Operates as a public facility, performing arts organization, museum, historical site, visual arts organization, county fairgrounds, cultural entity within a federally recognized Indian tribe based in Oregon or community event organization; or Produces cultural projects or programs for the public.

House Bill 2459 appropriates \$50,150,000 to Oregon Business Development Department (OBDD) to distribute to Oregon cultural organizations in response to negative impact of COVID-19. The measure appropriates \$22,567,995.51 to specific cultural venues through out the state s and requires OBDD establish a program to award \$27,432,004.49 in grants to eligible Oregon cultural organizations. . To be eligible for a grant a cultural organization must demonstrate that between fiscal years 2020 and 2023 the organization had significant loss in earned revenue because of statewide mandates, or guidance from the Oregon Health Authority, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.