



January 30, 2023

Hon. Janelle Bynum, Chair
Hons. Lily Morgan and Daniel Nguyen, Vice-Chairs
House Committee on Economic Development and Small Business
Oregon Legislature
Salem, OR 97301

RE: SUPPORT HB 2459

Dear Chair Bynum, Vice Chairs Morgan and Nguyen, and Committee Members,

As Oregon's only statewide non-profit historic preservation organization, Restore Oregon works with thousands of people across the state each year to preserve, reuse, and pass forward the historic places and spaces that embody Oregon's diverse cultural heritage. By helping our fellow citizens preserve our state's unique built, natural and cultural environments, we help celebrate and promote much of what makes Oregon special.

As a member of the Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon, Restore Oregon enthusiastically **supports passage of HB 2459**, and encourages you to equitably invest \$50 million in the continued recovery of Oregon's cultural sector, especially in support of the **vital nonprofits** in our state.

With any much-needed additional recovery money received, Restore Oregon would continue to promote inclusive historic preservation as a means of preserving Oregon's cultural heritage and as a tool for solving problems such as insufficient affordable housing, stalled economic development, and negative impacts from climate change. We would continue to draw on the strength of our communities and the depth of our cultural heritage—from Astoria to Lakeview and everywhere in-between—to advocate for effective policies and incentives, deliver quality educational programs, and directly intervene to save endangered places that matter to Oregonians.

All of Oregon's cultural organizations are desperate for financial help and will continue to need critical support as we work to recover in the wake of the pandemic. By working together, nonprofits, for-profits, and the Oregon Legislature can build back this large, vital sector of Oregon's economy with the passage of HB 2459.

With appreciation for your leadership and support of Oregon's entire cultural sector,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicole Possert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nicole Possert
Executive Director

cc: Hon. Rob Nosse
Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon