



POLK COUNTY

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Administrative Officer

February 7, 2023

RE; HB 2510

House Committee on Economic Development and Small Business
Chair Bynum, Vice-Chair Morgan, Vice-Chair Nguyen, members of the
Committee,

My name is Lyle Mordhorst. I am a Polk County Commissioner and have been involved with the Polk County Fair for several years. As a commissioner I now see it through a different lens. This is not only a great asset for our communities providing fantastic opportunities for our youth with educational growth by exposing them to areas of life that they may never experience. Teaching them valuable lessons on responsibility, public speaking and gaining the confidence to explore new intimidating challenges. A venue that brings our families and communities together to celebrate and enjoy what our county has to offer. I know of no other event than a fair where the entire family can go together and there is something of interest for everyone.

The Fairgrounds also serve as our backup Emergency Operations Center and Mass Care Center. During the Santiam Canyon Fires we provided shelter/camping for several families, hundreds of animals and an outreach center where they could gain essentials such as bedding, clothing, hygiene, mental health support and supplies for whatever their needs were.

The passing of this legislation would allow us to improve our facilities and expand our capabilities of meeting the needs of our constituents when our next emergency arises.

Please help us get this legislation passed and deliver the 1% funding that is so deeply needed.

Commissioner Lyle Mordhorst