

Submitter: Miesha Bennett

On Behalf Of: Wheeler County Fair

Committee: House Committee On Economic Development and Small Business

Measure: HB2510

Hello, I am writing in support of HB 2510. As you may already know, Wheeler County is the smallest county in population in Oregon, and our fairgrounds are an important fixture in our community. With a population of just over a 1000 residents we are severely lacking in areas for large gatherings to happen. It is not only a place to hold our county fair, the only public indoor pavilion for community members to utilize, a place for 4-H to have their summer day camps and the Holiday Lights Festival, but also a place for firefighters and big organizations like Cycle Oregon to camp. Even with community members coming together to keep the grounds looking nice and useable, the crumbling infrastructure can no longer be covered with multiple coats of paint and patches. Unfortunately our grandstands are long past their prime, the useable space underneath including the 4-H office and concession stand floods every time we have a rain storm. The electrical in the animal barns must be closely watched limiting use to keep the breakers from tripping. There are many other issues that need to be addressed, but with some extra funds and guidance allotted by HB 2510, together we can make our fairgrounds more beautiful, accessible, and safe for all our community and visitors. I encourage you to come out and see our fairgrounds, I would be happy to show you around! Thank you for you time and vote -Miesha Bennett