

## United Way of the Columbia-Willamette

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United Way of the  
Columbia-Willamette



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March 1st, 2023

Senate Human Services Committee  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

United Way of the Columbia-Willamette supports the passage of SB 606, the Nonprofit Modernization Act. Your vote in favor of this legislation is integral to building a more equitable nonprofit sector in our state, and ensuring the many communities supported by nonprofits in Oregon receive the services they need.

United Way of the Columbia-Willamette strives to improve housing stability, early education outcomes and disaster resilience to build a more just and equitable region where all people can thrive. Working directly with a wide range of nonprofits that provide essential services, we understand the challenges they face and see the enormous contributions they make to improving the lives of Oregonians throughout the state. Through SB 606, we have an opportunity to help those organizations that help others.

For too long, frontline nonprofits that support critical services in areas such as healthcare, housing and human services have struggled to pay workers a living wage while meeting community needs. They work with empathy in traumatic situations, carrying the weight of lives in their arms, and are consistently asked to do more. SB 606 begins a journey to correct this problem by raising wages, right-sizing administrative obligations and ultimately ensuring that, in collaboration with government, we are taking care of those among us that are most marginalized and facing the greatest needs.

By supporting SB 606, you can help nonprofits retain the most skilled workers who will ensure the most equitable outcomes. This bill will eliminate wasteful and unnecessary contracting requirements, making nonprofits more agile and able to respond to emergent issues. It will help build more sustainable relationships between government agencies and nonprofits, simplifying the process of grant and contract acquisition and ensuring that more money and support makes it to those who need it. Help our sector help our state by supporting SB 606 today. United Way of the Columbia-Willamette appreciates your consideration of SB 606, the Nonprofit Modernization Act. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dahnesh Medora  
Chief Impact Officer