



OSWEGO
HERITAGE
COUNCIL

March 6, 2023

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

Dear Committee Members:

RE: SB 606 - Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act

Oswego Heritage Council asks you to pass SB 606, the Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act. Your support is critical to the health of the nonprofit sector and the communities they serve.

The mission of the Oswego Heritage Council (OHC) is to preserve and promote the history and culture of Lake Oswego. OHC is headquartered at the Oswego Heritage House and Museum located at 398 10th Street in Lake Oswego. We invite visitors to stop by and see the historic house and attend our featured events, such as historical presentations, school programs, and curated exhibits featuring important and often overlooked local history.

As a small non-profit with only one part-time paid staff member, OHC is faced with many of the same challenges that other non-profit organizations are contending with: workforce turnover, not enough time to dedicate to complex or confusing grant applications, and burdensome reporting requirements. The single staff member must split their time between grants, programs, rentals, and other events and can quickly become overwhelmed without the structural support the Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act can provide.

The Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act can make a difference to OHC and the communities we serve by eliminating reimbursement as a form of payment for state grants, creating the Nonprofit Workforce Retention Fund to provide grants to help maintain and prevent employee turnover, and creating a state task force to reform nonprofit contracting in order to streamline and simplify the process, raise wages, and create an ecosystem of administrative policies, statutes, and funding levels that lead to sustainable government/nonprofit partnerships.

Oswego Heritage Council appreciates your consideration of SB 606. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Sinor
Executive Director