

Submitter: Brian Crow

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business

Measure: SB1038

Please support this bill.

Rodeo is a celebration of the American West culture and so many of the rodeo arenas around the state have fallen into disrepair, simply because it is not a high-profit sport. I can speak for our rodeo arena at the Clackamas County Fair and Event Center and the fact that we are facing \$500,000 in necessary upgrades for safety. Some of our bleachers came to us as World War 2 surplus.

Rodeo is an under-publicized sport in our state, but we have thousands of competitors from Youth Rodeos all the way up to the pro athletes who compete in events across the country. As a matter of fact, the Canby Rodeo, which takes place during our county fair, is in the top 40 rodeos nationwide. A good percentage of the athletes that performed at our rodeo went on to compete and win at the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo.

Rodeo is also a strong economic driver for our communities. The fans and athletes eat at local restaurants, they fill their trucks at local gas stations and stay at local hotels.

Changes in the sport over last 20 years have also made it a safe place for the other athletes, the stock, to perform at what they do best.

Again, I ask you to support SB 1038 and the facilities that present this sport.