

Submitter: Kassie Bonnell

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General
Government, and Veterans

Measure: HB2948

Hello I am writing in support of HB 2948 that would create a \$20 million grant fund within the Oregon Department of Emergency Management for improvement of fairgrounds that are used as emergency evacuation sites. I am currently on the Columbia County Fair Board and the Columbia County Fair Site is an emergency evacuation site for residents and livestock assets in the area. We currently are in need of some urgent repairs that would allow a safe and secure haven for not only the annual county fair and members of the community that use these grounds throughout the year but in the event that the space needs to be utilized for an evacuation area. Some of the critical areas the funds would be used for are:

- 7 new roofs for buildings at the site
- Critical generators
- New electrical bathroom with showers
- FEMA approved RV hook ups
- Improved signage, fencing, gates
- Lighting around entrance and exit areas
- Covered emergency shelter
- Improved WiFi
- Improved PA system
- Show Arena to allow for future growth

All of these repairs and needs would properly set us up to ensure members of the community can enjoy the fair site year round knowing the facilities are up to date, safe, and can protect them in a time of need.