



CROOKED RIVER ROUNDUP

Oregon Legislature
Ways & Means Committee

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RE: Support of Fair Funding Bills SB-451 & HB 2510

Dear Co-Chair Steiner, Co-Chair Sanchez and Honorable Committee Members,

My name is Steve Holliday from Central Oregon, more specifically Powell Butte. I am the President of the Crooked River Round-up in Prineville. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding County Fair Funding Bills SB-451 and HB-2510. Approval of these bills removes the cap of \$1.5 million shared by Oregon State Fair, Oaks Park and 34 other county fairgrounds per year and returns the 1% of lottery funding direct allocation for fairgrounds to counties. I encourage your support of these similar bills.

Having grown up in Eastern Oregon and now living in Central Oregon, I believe that the fairgrounds serve as an economic hub for most rural communities. Fairgrounds have always been the economic hub for rural communities. Future generations will come to appreciate, utilize and preserve the fairgrounds. Even as our society changes, the fairgrounds serves as a hub- common ground for all citizens of rural communities.

As our future generations try to adapt to societal changes, there is one steady truth to be said about rural communities, the fairgrounds continues to bring families and communities together. It is utilized from organizations having group meetings, to non-profits making the most of the infrastructure, to holding philanthropic events at the fairgrounds. It is the center, the hub of rural communities.

The heart of Prineville is the fairgrounds...no doubt. The biggest event in Prineville is the Crooked River Round-up, it has been held at the Crook County Fairgrounds for 76 years. There are many local non-profits that utilize the round-up to support their organization. The round-up relies heavily on the fairgrounds to have the infrastructure to hold our event- the fairgrounds is the hub and the round-up is the wheel. One cannot function without the other.

Rural Oregon unites to strongly urge you to support County Fair Funding Bills SB-451 and HB-2510 for ALL county fairgrounds.

Steve Holliday, President
Crooked River Round-up