

Submitter: Stephen Lawrence

On Behalf Of: Civic Auditorium Historic Preservation Committee

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction

Measure: HB5030

The Civic Auditorium Historic Preservation Committee, 501(c)(3), purchased the Civic Auditorium building in 1990 to spare it from demolition. Since that time, approximately \$3,500,000 has been raised through grants, gifts, fundraisers and urban renewal dollars. In 2022, rehabilitation of the large theatre, to include fire protection, heating and air, insulation, carpeting, a new stairway to the balcony and many other improvements was completed. Our first lottery grant, just under \$750,000, donations in excess of \$250,000, and a city grant for architectural and structural designs helped to complete the project. All required reports of lottery dollar use were submitted timely and should be available to the committee. In addition, the stage was sanded and refinished, a new fire retardant curtain installed, a new ADA platform section constructed and finally, aisle and wall lighting, window curtains and wood refinishing was accomplished. Our current request is for help with the final phase to complete creation of a world class theatre. We need adequate sound capacity and performance lighting. Our submitted estimates contemplates significant dollars from the community, from our 100 anniversary banquet and a recent bequest for \$26,000. Please consider our request for additional lottery funding in the amount requested of \$50,000 as the final step to putting this iconic theatre back into community service.