



May 7, 2023

TO: Co-chair Senator Fred Girod and Representative Paul Holvey and Members of the Committee, Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction

RE: SUPPORT, CREF 2023-25

Please consider this strong letter of support to pass the Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon's (CACO) 2023 Cultural Resources Economic Fund (CREF) slate of 16 capital construction projects. at the requested funding level.

As Oregon's only statewide non-profit historic preservation organization, Restore Oregon works with thousands of people across the state each year to preserve, reuse, and pass forward the historic places and spaces that embody Oregon's diverse cultural heritage. By helping our fellow citizens preserve our state's unique built, natural and cultural environments, we help celebrate and promote much of what makes Oregon special.

Through our Oregon's Most Endangered Places program, we have worked with Friends of the Oregon Caves Chateau to save and restore the chateau—one of only two National Historic Landmarks in Oregon. We also strongly advocate for organizations working to broaden and deepen the representation of culturally and ethnically diverse historic resources like the Native Arts and Culture Foundation and the Black United Fund.

We fervently support the entire slate of endorsed projects in large part because each project has been thoughtfully vetted by professionals in the Cultural Advocacy Coalition's process. It is vitally important that the cultural institutions that house, steward, and interpret our unique resources be fully funded as the state recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment and support to this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicole Possert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nicole Possert
Executive Director