Submitter: Lisa Lipton

On Behalf Of: Oregon Arts Commission and Oregon Cultural Trust

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Transportation and Economic Development

Measure: SB5524

I am here in support of Oregon Arts Commission and the Oregon Cultural Trust. By supporting their budgets, the state would be able to see more operational support available for arts organizations and new programs being launched in rural areas like the cultural districting projects. As someone who works in the arts in rural and metro areas, I can directly see the impacts of how these programs around the state would contribute to Oregon's vitality in the arts and connect communities all over to share resources within arts and culture. Currently, I believe we are ranked 36th overall in arts funding across America, yet, our art scene is among the top five things people mention when they talk about Oregon and its culture. I'd like to see this become a greater funded ecosystem in our state and something we uplift more through the cultural districting project and more operational funding for arts organizations around the state.