March 21, 2023

Senator Aaron Woods and Representative David Gomberg,
Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development
Oregon State Legislature

Dear Co-Chair Woods, Co-Chair Gomberg, and members of the committee,

I am Cueyolaux Cataldo, and I am recommending that you continue funding the technical assistance program. I am the owner of CedarStone, LLC and a Sustainable Homes Professional. My small business creates eco-homes for the community of Eugene and across Oregon that are sustainable, affordable, and carbon negative. As a member of First Nations, my company is rooted in responsibility to the Earth, and I'm very proud of what my small company is able to do for the local community and environment.

The Oregon Native American Chamber team has offered unbelievable services to me and my small team. We needed help with legal assistance regarding setting up contracting and operating agreements. My specialty is construction and engineering, not the law, and ONAC helped me create well-written agreements that ensure my small company is protected. Not only that, ONAC helped me prepare my taxes and also projections for our live business plan.

As a Native American, receiving culturally specific support from a Native-led organization, for no cost, was exactly what CedarStone required. Going forward, whenever I'm in need of support, ONAC is who I will contact first. I'm grateful to them for what they do for me and for other Native small business owners, and I recommend Business Oregon to continue their funding so that ONAC can carry on supporting Native small business owners across our state. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cueyo Cataldo

Cueyolaux Cataldo
Owner, CedarStone, LLC