

Submitter: Jarred Alkire

On Behalf
Of:

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

Measure: HB5202

The Hillsboro Hops is a family. That family extends from its staff members, to the players, all the way to every fan that comes to a game in the summertime. Having a fun, affordable, safe, family friendly place to go and be entertained is a necessity for people in Hillsboro and the entire Portland metro area. Working for the Hops has provided me countless opportunities to provide unforgettable memories for our community and make a positive impact. Some of the best moments I have been a part of in my 7 years with the Hops have ranged from small moments in games with providing a special moment for a child and their first time at a game, to going out into the community to help improve the lives of members of the area with our reading programs for kids and free baseball/softball camps in the summer. The relationships that are built between our fans is very important. To strengthen a community we need a place for all to come and have fun and be able to connect on a human level. In a world with so many differences and arguments, having a place to enjoy together no matter your political opinions, religious beliefs, or socioeconomical situation is unheard of. The Hops provide that space and with the new ballpark those opportunities will only grow. This will be so much more than just a ballpark for baseball. The cultural celebrations, live music, or community events will give everyone in our area an opportunity to get together and build memories with their families.

At the end of the day this project is an obvious positive financial impact on the area with the number of jobs it will create and the extra tourism it will drive. Most importantly though at this point we all need a place to go where we feel safe and accepted, this ballpark will be that!