



Testimony on HB 5201 & HB 5202
Submitted by the Portland Trail Blazers
Jt. Ways & Means Capital Construction Subcommittee
February 16, 2024

Co-Chairs Holvey and Girod, and members of the subcommittee:

The Portland Trail Blazers ask the legislature to support funding for this session's "Sports Package", with an emphasis on \$15 million for a new Hillsboro Hops stadium in Washington County.

The Trailblazers have been proudly playing professional basketball in Oregon for more than 50 years. While we play our games at the Moda Center in Portland, we have a practice facility in Washington County and share a bond with Hops as one of the few professional sports teams in Oregon.

We join the Hops, Emeralds and others as great supporters and promoters of sport. Sports teams and facilities bring economic development, jobs, and pride to communities, as well as offer family friendly entertainment that brings people together.

Funding for a new Hops stadium ensures professional, minor league baseball continues in the Portland Metro area. Most stadium and arena projects throughout the country are funded under public-private partnerships, with state funding a common component.

The Trail Blazers are big supporters of the Hops/Washington County funding request, along with the other projects that are part to the Sports Package this session.

We ask you to support this package to show the state's commitment to sports, and the important economic investment it brings to our communities.