

Submitter: Cindy Cosenzo

On Behalf  
Of:

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

Measure: HB5201

I can't imagine our community without the Hillsboro Hops.

My name is Cindy Cosenzo and I run a social impact business in Hillsboro called Just Create Community, LLC. I specialize in developing programming which brings everyone together in community. Several years ago I went to a Hops game for the first time and the spirit of community was immediately palpable. I loved that everyone had a good seat and could feel connected to the field and the players. I loved all the fun activities that happened for the kids and families throughout the game and the feeling of joy and excitement in the air. I was smitten from that game on! This sports club brings the community together. And it doesn't happen by accident. The owners are committed to giving back to the community and the amazing Hops staff work so hard to ensure a tremendous fan experience at every game!

I understand that the Hops are being required by the MLB to upgrade the facility to meet new league standards and to do so within a very short period of time. The Hops have raised almost all the funds needed for the expansion except a shortfall of \$15 million and are asking the Oregon legislature for a \$15 million grant from funds earmarked for construction projects and economic development. I am sending this letter to you now to urge you to provide that last piece of the funding so that our beloved Hops can stay in Hillsboro.

I can't imagine our community without the Hillsboro Hops. It will be a blow to the morale of the region. At a time when we all most need to feel that things are going in a forward positive uplifting direction, it will feel like a setback. After 10+ years of this sports club creating memories for kids and families, raising money for youth sports, providing scholarships for first-generation college students, and offering America's favorite pastime accessible for everyone to come and enjoy, losing them will feel like a gaping hole in the middle of our community.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter of providing the last piece of funding.

Cindy Cosenzo, Just Create Community, LLC