

Submitter: Olivia J Haddock

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2527

Written Testimony in Support of Appropriating Funds for Water and Sewer Improvements at the Union County Fairgrounds

Submitted by:

Olivia J. Haddock

4-H and FFA Member, Beef Cattle Exhibitor

Date: March 9, 2025

To: House Committee on Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Olivia J. Haddock, and I am a 4-H and FFA member in Union County. I raise beef cattle and participate in both 4-H and FFA programs. I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed appropriation of funds from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for distribution to the Union County Fair Association. These funds would be used to make necessary water and sewer improvements at the Union County Fairgrounds, which are essential for the continued success of these programs and the safety and comfort of everyone who uses the fairgrounds.

As a member of both 4-H and FFA, the Union County Fair is one of the most important events for me. It is where I get to showcase the cattle I've worked hard to raise and demonstrate the skills I've learned over the years. The fairgrounds play a big role in helping me, and other youth in our community, show the results of our dedication and hard work. However, the current water and sewer systems at the fairgrounds are outdated and unable to meet the demands of the growing number of participants and visitors, especially those of us who raise livestock.

Upgrading the water and sewer infrastructure is crucial to ensuring that the fairgrounds remain a safe, healthy, and accessible environment for all exhibitors, families, and visitors. Modernized systems will provide better sanitation and allow us to focus on our projects without worrying about limited or unreliable facilities. Additionally, these improvements will allow the fairgrounds to continue being used as an emergency shelter in times of need, which is another vital service for our community.

The Union County Fairgrounds are a cornerstone of our local agricultural programs and community activities. By improving the water and sewer systems, we can host more events, help local businesses, and continue to support the future of 4-H, FFA, and other community programs. These upgrades will ensure that the fairgrounds remain a valuable asset to Union County for years to come.

I respectfully urge you to support this funding so that the fairgrounds can continue to serve as a place of learning, community engagement, and youth development for generations to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Olivia J. Haddock
4-H and FFA Member, Beef Cattle Exhibitor