

Submitter: Solomon Singer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Transportation and Economic Development

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5024

Written Testimony of Solomon Singer

Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Program Director, Lane Community College
Before the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation
and
Economic Development

In Support of House Bill 5024

March 14, 2025

Co-Chair Woods, Co-Chair Gomberg, and members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development, My name is Solomon Singer, and I serve as the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Program Director at Lane Community College. I appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of House Bill 5024, which provides critical funding to Business Oregon and, in turn, supports the Oregon UAS Accelerator—a program that has played a key role in advancing both workforce development and Oregon’s leadership in unmanned systems innovation.

Through Business Oregon’s investment, the Oregon UAS Accelerator serves as a vital resource for small business founders, providing mentorship, financial support, and technical expertise they need to develop cutting-edge autonomous aerial and robotic technologies. But its impact goes beyond startups—it directly enhances workforce development and career pathways for students across the state, including those at Lane Community College. As an educator, I have seen firsthand how the accelerator bridges the gap between education and industry by providing students with internship opportunities, real-world exposure to emerging technology, and direct connections to employers working in the UAS and robotics sectors. The skills students develop through these experiences prepare them for high-demand, high-wage careers in an industry that is rapidly growing—right here in Oregon.

If funding for Business Oregon is not maintained through House Bill 5024, the future of the Oregon UAS Accelerator—and the career pathways it creates—could be jeopardized. This program is not just about supporting startups; it is an essential driver of workforce development, ensuring that Oregon produces a strong pipeline of skilled professionals ready to meet the demands of the autonomous systems

industry.

Lane Community College is proud to collaborate with the Oregon UAS Accelerator, and I urge the committee to fully support House Bill 5024 to sustain this critical funding. Thank you for your time and your commitment to fostering Oregon's leadership in UAS technology, workforce development, and economic growth.

Respectfully submitted,

Solomon Singer
Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Program Director
Lane Community College