

RE: HB 3870 – Funding for Joint Use Facility in Mosier

March 26, 2025

Chair Tran and Committee Members,

For ten years I have observed how rapidly growing tourism and climate change have increased the costs of emergency response and risks of catastrophic fires in the Columbia Gorge.


In 2018, the day before our wedding in the Gorge, some of the wedding guests had to evacuate their campground because of wildfires.

I also closely observed the fire caused by the Union Pacific oil train derailment, which could have been disastrous for Mosier and the central Gorge if it had occurred later in the summer, during typical hot and dry Gorge winds.

Local matching funding is being raised for the Joint Use Facility, which is a big challenge for a community as small as Mosier. They have demonstrated leadership and now I hope you can support them by approving funding for the Joint Use Facility.

A relatively modest investment now could save many lives of residents and visitors and help protect the forests and natural resources of the Gorge.

Thank you for your public service.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert Liberty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Robert Liberty

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