

Submitter: Chad James

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5506

Dear Co-Chair Fred Girod, Co-Chair Rob Nosse, and Members of the Subcommittee on Capital Construction,

My name is Chad James, and I'm writing in strong support of Portland State University's request for \$85 million in Article XI-G bonds to help fund the Performing Arts and Culture Center (PACC).

As someone who lives and works in this city, I care deeply about the future of downtown Portland. I've seen the challenges we face—but I also see the potential for renewal, and the PACC is exactly the kind of bold, catalytic investment that can help turn things around.

This project will breathe life into the city's core—bringing students, artists, audiences, and energy back downtown. It will create new spaces for cultural events and performances that are accessible and welcoming to the whole community, while also strengthening PSU, our city's public research university and a key economic and cultural driver.

The PACC means:

- Revitalizing downtown with a new cultural and educational hub
- Supporting Oregon's students with hands-on learning and career pathways in the arts
- Creating thousands of good-paying jobs, including union construction jobs
- Attracting new investment and reactivating underused land and spaces
- Deepening Portland's identity as a creative, innovative, and inclusive city

This isn't just a building—it's a way to reimagine what our city can be and show what's possible when we invest in education, culture, and community.

I urge you to fully fund PSU's \$85 million request. Let's take this opportunity to support our students, our downtown, and a brighter future for Portland.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to Oregon's future.

Sincerely,

Chad James