

Submitter: Bobbie Stewart
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Tax Expenditures
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB120

Testimony in Support of SB 120 -1
Submitted by Bobbie Stewart, Small Business and Construction Trade Education
Director, PBDG
June 10, 2025

Dear Chair Meek, Chair Nathanson, and Members of the Joint Committee on Tax
Expenditures,

My name is Bobbie Stewart, and I work with underrepresented small construction
firms through the Professional Business Development Group (PBDG). I'm writing in
strong support of SB 120 -1 because IDAs are a game-changer for small business
owners in our network.

IDA funds are often the only accessible path for small, underserved businesses to
purchase the high-priced assets they need to grow—equipment, work trucks, tools,
technology. These aren't luxury items. They're essential to increasing capacity, taking
on larger contracts, and competing in the market.

In my role, I've seen IDAs help business owners move from surviving to scaling. The
matched savings model gives them a tangible goal and the support to reach it.
Without IDAs, many of these entrepreneurs wouldn't be able to take that next step—
they'd be locked out of opportunities simply because they can't afford the upfront
investment.

SB 120 -1 is not just a fix—it's a commitment to ensuring that small businesses in
Oregon have a fair shot. Raising the tax credit cap will stabilize the IDA program and
keep it accessible to the very people who are building our communities.

I urge your support.

Sincerely,
Bobbie Stewart
Small Business and Construction Trade Education Director
Professional Business Development Group