



City of Portland

February 12, 2026

Senate Committee on Rules
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Jama, Vice Chair Starr, and Members of Senate Committee on Rules,

The Moda Center is Oregon's largest gathering place and busiest entertainment venue. Together with the Portland Trail Blazers, the arena welcomes more than 1.6 million visitors annually, supports more than 4,000 jobs, and generates approximately \$670 million in annual economic activity for the state. It's a cultural and economic epicenter that serves urban, suburban, and rural Oregonians alike through sporting events, concerts, rodeos, and community gatherings that draw visitors from every corner of the state.

Modernizing the Moda Center is an investment in Oregon's future. It will not only help ensure that the Trail Blazers continue to call Oregon home for decades to come and serve as home court for the Portland Fire, Oregon's new WNBA team; it will allow Oregon to compete for major musical acts that currently skip over Oregon because our venues do not have the internal systems needed to support their large-scale shows.

The upgrade also meets an immediate need – creating thousands of good-paying construction jobs at a time when our construction sector needs a boost. And the Trail Blazers and Moda Center serve as partners as the Albina Vision Trust continues its work to rebuild a thriving neighborhood in the heart of Portland's central city.

Renovating the Moda Center, rather than building new, also presents significant carbon reduction and cost savings while providing the facility with modern, energy-efficient systems.

This isn't about a single building, city, or even team. It is about investing in Oregon's economy, supporting good paying jobs, advancing sustainability, and preserving a shared cultural home that brings Oregonians together for decades to come.

The City of Portland is fully committed to this renovation. We are advancing a large local investment in capital and operating costs over the life of the investment, in close coordination with the Trail Blazers, regional governments, organized labor, community

organizations, and state leaders to deliver strong community benefits and a clear path forward. Meaningful state partnership will unlock this generational project and strengthen Oregon's position as a destination for large-scale events and shared civic experiences.

We strongly urge your support for SB 1501.

Sincerely,



Keith Wilson
Mayor



Jamie Dunphy
Council President
District 1



Olivia Clark
Council Vice President
District 4



Candace Avalos
Councilor, District 1



Loretta Smith
Councilor, District 1



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