

Submitter: Sarah Crawford
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1501

I am submitting this testimony for the February 25, 2026 Senate Rules Committee hearing on SB 1501.

I support keeping the Trail Blazers in Portland. I also believe that SB 1501 needs taxpayer protections.

There should be a minimum lease term, revenue sharing, relocation penalties, property tax equivalency payments, and a requirement that the ownership group contribute private capital.

I am asking you to oppose SB 1501 as currently written and support amending it to include a Public Investment Return Agreement with six provisions:

1. Revenue participation directed to the General Fund (not the Arena Fund, which under Section 2(1) can only be spent on arena expenses)
2. Franchise appreciation rights on any future sale
3. Naming rights revenue capture directed to the General Fund
4. Property tax equivalency payments (PILOTs)
5. Relocation penalties requiring repayment if the team leaves before bonds are repaid
6. A private capital matching requirement from the ownership group

For the full analysis with bill section citations, visit ripcitynotripoff.com.

Respectfully.

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