

February 25, 2026

Support for Senate Bill 1501

Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Starr, and Members of the Committee:

I urge your support for SB 1501 to champion family-sustaining jobs in the skilled trades. This \$600 million renovation project is about more than basketball; it's about ensuring our statewide construction workforce is shored up for years to come.

SB 1501 is important to me as a father of three children and a member of Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 290 for 39 years. I was born and raised in Portland. I'm trying to keep my children here local. One of three has had to move away to be able to afford a house for his family. Having good paying jobs here in my city is a key component for the future of Portland and Oregon as a whole. My current job, I'm a Business Agent and instructor for 290Tech.edu for Local 290. I hold seats on a few different boards here to promote life sustaining jobs for Oregonians. I'm the Secretary/Treasurer for Southern Oregon Building Trades Construction Council. I sit on the Rogue Work Force board for Southern Oregon through ORAFLCIO. I'm also a delegate for ORALFCIO in southern Oregon ALFCIO. A project of this scale would allow us to increase enrollment in state-registered apprenticeship programs. These programs rely on the certainty of future jobs in order to move potential apprentices off waiting lists and into Oregon's skilled trades workforce.

When this project breaks ground in 2027, skilled trades workers will come from all over Oregon to work on this once-in-a-generation job site. From apprentices who earn while they learn to journey workers training the next generation, our workforce stands ready to meet this moment.

Please pass SB 1501 to take the first step toward making this project a reality. This is a vital investment in job creation, workforce development, working families, and the entire Oregon economy.

Thank you for time,

Bryan P. Oguri

Proud Member of Plumbers & Steamfitters UA Local 290