



Vote Yes on SB 1501

February 25, 2026

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

The Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council is a statewide umbrella organization comprised of 31-member unions, representing tens of thousands of Union skilled trades workers across and around Oregon. The Council was formed in 1940 to bring together building-related trades to protect the welfare of workers and learn from one another and provide our members' voices here in the state legislature.

From the beginning, the Portland Trail Blazers demonstrated their commitment to creating family-sustaining careers for Oregon's skilled trades workers. Passing SB 1501 is the first step toward delivering on that commitment.

This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity. This project will be ready for construction in 2027, putting hundreds of laid off Oregonians back to work quickly. A \$600 million construction project will help continue creating pathways for women in both rural and urban communities into the skilled trades by prioritizing local hire and expanding opportunities through state-registered apprenticeship programs, benefiting the entire state.

A project of this size will create opportunities for the next generation of skilled trades workers for decades to come benefiting the whole state. The Moda Center is already a LEED Platinum-certified arena. This renovation project can further demonstrate how Oregon is a national leader in energy efficiency, water conservation, and climate resilience – while supporting high-road construction careers.

This is more than basketball. This is an investment in job creation, workforce development, working families, and the entire Oregon economy. On behalf of the tens of thousands of skilled trades workers and households across the state that we represent, **I urge you to support Senate Bill 1501.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Camarillo", is positioned below the "Sincerely," text.

Robert Camarillo
Executive Secretary

OREGON BUILDING TRADES AFFILIATES

Boilermakers Local 242
Bricklayers Local 1
Cement Masons Local 555
Drywall Finishers Local 101
Elevator Constructors Local 23
Floor Coverers Local 1236
Glaziers Local 740
Heat and Frost Insulators Local 36
IBEW Local 112
IBEW Local 280
IBEW Local 48
IBEW Local 659
IBEW Local 932
Ironworkers Local 29
Ironworkers PNW District Council
Ironworkers Shop Local 516

Laborers Local 737
Laborers OR and S Idaho District Council
Office & Professional Employees Local 11
Operating Engineers Local 701
Painters and Allied Trades District Council 5
Painters Local 10
Plasterers Local 82
Roofers Local 49
Sheet Metal Workers Local 16
Sheet Metal Workers Local 55
Sprinkler Fitters UA Local 669
Teamsters Joint Council No. 37
Teamsters Local 162
UA Local 290 Plumbers & Steamfitters
UA Local 598 Plumbers & Pipefitters

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: **ROBERT CAMARILLO**

POLITICAL & SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR: **HAYLEY WATSON**

REGIONAL BUILDING TRADES COUNCILS

- Central Oregon
- Columbia Pacific
- Lane, Coos, Curry, Douglas
- Pendleton
- Salem
- Southern Oregon