

Submitter: Jenae Tabanao
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1501

I am writing today to express my support for SB 1501 and the modernization of the Moda Center.

I learned how much the Moda Center means to the fabric of this community through my family. My grandparents were dedicated season ticket holders, and my grandmother was a fixture at the arena for years. Even when I wasn't there with her, I saw her passion firsthand—she was known for making incredible, custom-themed hats for every game she attended.

The tickets still remain in the family, and I now enjoy attending games with my own family and passing on those memories.

To my grandmother, and to so many others, the Moda Center wasn't just a stadium; it was a cornerstone of her social life and a point of pride for her city.

I believe SB 1501 is vital for several reasons:

A Destination for All: Beyond being the home of the Trail Blazers, the Moda Center is our primary venue for major concerts and events. To keep Portland on the map as a destination for world-class performers, we need a facility that meets modern technical and hospitality standards.

Economic Vitality: A modern arena attracts visitors from across the region who spend money at local restaurants, hotels, and shops. Upgrading the Rose Quarter is a common-sense investment in the continued recovery and growth of Portland's central core.

Preserving a Legacy: We have a responsibility to maintain the spaces where Oregonians gather. By modernizing the arena now, we ensure that future generations—whether they are lifelong residents or new arrivals—can create their own memories there, just as my grandmother did.

A "destination space" requires a modern vision. I urge you to support SB 1501 to ensure the Moda Center remains a vibrant, competitive, and welcoming hub for sports and entertainment for decades to come.