

Date: February 26, 2026

To: Oregon Senate Committee on Rules
From: IBEW Local 48



Chair Jama and members of the Committee,

The IBEW Local 48 represents nearly 6,000 skilled electricians in Oregon & SW Washington, and we **urge your support of Senate Bill 1501** and the -3 amendment.

Senate Bill 1501 represents a critical opportunity to invest in Oregon's economy and its workforce, while also investing in a key feature of Portland and Oregon - the Moda Center. Improving this arena supports tourism in our state, and with a project that is committed to a skilled workforce who is paid fairly it supports our communities and workers.

SB 1501 and the -3 amendment is a critical step in allowing for the Moda Center to be upgraded and maintained, and dedicates project-related tax revenues to support renovation, capital improvements, and operations, creating sustained economic activity. This goes beyond the need to invest in a cultural hub for our region.

Renovations and capital improvements to the Moda Center will require highly trained craftspeople across multiple trades, including our electricians, and also plumbers, pipefitters, ironworkers, carpenters, laborers, operating engineers, and other trades. These large-scale projects require strong safety standards, a skilled workforce, pathways for apprentices and the benefits that confidence in quality that Union labor provides. We have an opportunity to support a project that supports our Trades and communities.

This is a thoughtful approach in alignment with a goal of economic development and job creation. We are excited to be a part of a historic project to modernize Oregon's Arena looking towards the next several decades, and at the opportunity for our journey-workers and apprentices to have jobs on this project.

The IBEW Local 48 strongly **urges your support for SB 1501 with the -3 amendment.**