

# LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



WILL TUCKER  
*Commissioner*

SHERRIE SPRENGER  
*Commissioner*

ROGER NYQUIST  
*Commissioner*

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Linn County Courthouse  
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DARRIN L. LANE  
*Administrative Officer*

February 12, 2024

(VIA EMAIL)

ATTN: Chair Jama  
Vice-Chair, Anderson  
Senator Knopp  
Senator Patterson  
Senator Sollman

I write today in support of SB 1530. As a fire effected county, we have seen the devastating effects of fire and the huge challenges of recovery.

As you work on this issue, I want to highlight the importance of Section 5 of the proposed legislation. I appreciate that the role of furniture banks is on your radar. Furniture changes a house into a home. At the end of the long battle, to build a house, many do not have the funding they need for furniture.

Furniture Share is one such bank, it has not only had basic furniture, but has been supplying air conditioners for low income. They also have bedding, tableware, pots and pans, even housing décor items. Furniture Share has been serving Linn, Benton, Lincoln and Marion County communities for the last 26 years. On average they serve 4,200 individuals and provide 1,600 beds for kids. In addition, they serve 400 homeless veterans and their families annually.

Furniture Share has served our region well. When we had the 2020 wildfires, within one week they secured an additional 15,000 square-foot warehouse, had furniture drives where the community came from as far from Portland, White Salmon, Washington and Medford to donate furniture, filling the warehouse. Within 18 months of their Wildfire Furniture Relief Program, they served more than 2,400 individuals with furniture and household items who lost their homes in those wildfires.

Please keep section 5 and consider increasing the funding for this unique set of agencies doing so much great work in Oregon.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "William C. Tucker".

William C. Tucker  
Linn County Commissioner