

Co-Chairs Holvey, Girod and committee members,

Thank you for receiving this testimony about HB 5534 and lottery bond funding for the 2021 session. In the 2019 session the Port of Cascade Locks was awarded 2.4 million in lottery bond funds in HB 5030. This funding was also included in the Governor's recommended budget for that session. These funds were earmarked to support economic development in the Port's business park. After the bill passage, the Port worked closely with Business Oregon to leverage the anticipated 2.4 million to support two manufacturing projects that would together create nearly 100 new FTE for Hood River County and the Gorge. pFriem Family Brewers moved into its completed 24,000 Sq. Ft. facility in March of 2020 and the Renewal Workshop will occupy their new 40,000 Sq. Ft. next month. The new jobs are helping our region that is still recovering from the Eagle Creek Fire and of course, Covid-19. These two new projects have created great interest in other Port property in Cascade Locks and will lead to further investment and job creation in our community.

The Port of Cascade Locks respectfully requests that the 2.4 million in lottery bond funding allocated to the Port in HB 5030 be included in HB 5534 this session so that Port can continue to successfully develop the local economy and create jobs for the Gorge and the region.

Sincerely,

Mark Johnson
Government Affairs Director
Port of Cascade Locks