



February 9, 2022

Greetings, Beaverton Arts and Culture Advocates and Producers-

There is currently a bill [HB4040 \(oregonlegislature.gov\)](https://legislature.oregon.gov/bills/2022/0000-0099/0000-0099-0000-0000-0000-0000-0000-0000-0000-0000) that was introduced in the 2022 regular Oregon legislative session that, if approved, would direct \$50 million in funding to Oregon arts and culture organizations that have suffered financial impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. This bill is sponsored by [Representative Nosse, Senator Lawrence Spence](#). **The bill is scheduled for a committee vote on Monday, February 14th, 2022.** After this date, comments directly to the bill's sponsors may still be effective.

What is HB 4040?

The bill proposes that for the biennium ending June 30, 2023 Oregon Business Development Department would manage allocation of \$50 million in general funds to develop and implement a grant program directly supporting Oregon cultural organizations.

While the final details of a grant program would be determined after successful passage of HB 4040, the concept is that an Oregon cultural organization must demonstrate that, at any time after February 29, 2020, and before January 1, 2022, the organization experienced a significant financial loss because of statewide mandates, or guidance of the Oregon Health Authority, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Organizations must be headquartered in and operate primarily, in the state of Oregon and must serve the purpose of producing, promoting or presenting the arts, culture, humanities, heritage or entertainment, other than adult entertainment, to the public.

As proposed, HB 4040 would direct sixty percent to Oregon cultural organizations that operate cultural venues, performing arts organizations and museums and forty percent to Oregon cultural organizations that operate cultural support businesses.

How can you share your support?

If this is legislation that you believe would benefit your organization and the greater Beaverton arts and culture community, we encourage you to reach out to the members of the [House Economic Recovery and Prosperity Committee ahead of their February 14th vote](#). We recommend that you keep your correspondence brief and responding to the following:

- 1) How is this financial support helpful to you, your organization or your community?
- 2) Speak to the proposed level of financial support
- 3) Share a personal connection to how COVID has had negative financial impact on your organization's operations and ability fulfill its mission.

It only takes a moment to reach out to your legislators and it is important for the greater arts and culture ecosystem of Oregon that we have the resources we need to recover from the devastating effects of COVID-19 on the arts and culture sector.

Sincerely,

Laura Elizabeth Becker, City of Beaverton Arts Program Manager