

Take Action!

The Full Joint Ways and Means Committee is hitting the road to visit four Oregon cities, one each week for the next month. We are looking for individuals to testify in support of OLA's bills SB 885 and SB 1075 at the meetings listed below in Portland, Newport, Roseburg and Ontario.

[Here are instructions and a draft script outline](#) for you to use. Keep in mind Legislators appreciate hearing personalized stories. Please feel free to add in anecdotal evidence to help make our case for needed funding for broadband and to support school libraries.

If you can attend please register and let Tess know at tess@miliocaptiolconsulting.com.

Times and locations

Portland

Saturday, April 8, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Location: Portland Community College - PAC Auditorium, Sylvania Campus
12000 SW 49th Ave, Portland, OR 97219

[Register to testify](#)

Newport

Friday, April 14, 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Location: Newport Performing Arts Center
777 W Olive St, Newport, OR 97365

[Register to testify](#)

Roseburg

Friday, April 21 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Location: Umpqua Community College
1140 Umpqua College Rd, Roseburg, OR 9747

[Register to testify](#)

Ontario

Friday, April 28 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Location: Four Rivers Cultural Center
676 SW 5th Ave, Ontario, OR 97914

Note: Ontario, Oregon is in the Mountain Time Zone

[Register to testify](#)

Not available for any of the above? Testify online

Wednesday, May 3 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm

[Register to testify](#)

How to register to testify:

- Click on the link above for the meeting that you're going to attend
- Near the top right click "Register to Testify"
- Submit written testimony using the link at the bottom of the page
- If you have any questions about registering, please reach out to Tess at tess@miliocapitolconsulting.com
- If you are testifying remotely on May 3, you will receive a meeting link via email. If you cannot find the link, be sure to check your spam folder.
- All other sessions are for live testimony only, but be sure to upload the written version of your testimony as well.

Testimony Script

Co-Chair Steiner, Co-Chair Sanchez, and members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means,

My name is [YOUR NAME], I am a [JOB POSITION] at [INSTITUTION/ LIBRARY], based out of (CITY – HOME or WORK). I'm here to speak in support of the Oregon Library Association's priority bills – SB 885 to provide more broadband infrastructure funding for public libraries & SB 1075 to add a position at the Oregon Department of Education to focus on supporting school library media programs statewide.

[TELL YOUR STORY / WHY YOU CARE ABOUT BETTER BROADBAND FOR LIBRARIES AND STRONG SCHOOL LIBRARY PROGRAMS]

SB 885 and SB 1075 passed out of the Senate Education Committee, and has been referred to Ways & Means. I humbly ask that you support of SB 885 & SB 1075 to leverage Federal funds and support libraries across Oregon. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Getting ready for in-person testimony

- Sign up early. Print your script. Practice looking up to the committee occasionally.
- Be brief. Choose only your key points. **You will only have 2 minutes to testify. We recommend you practice your testimony with a timer a few times before you give your testimony.**
- Submit written testimony. Your written testimony can make the points that you did not have time to make in your presentation.
- Dress for success. Wear something professional that makes you feel comfortable and confident!
- The testimony is recorded, so speak into the microphone provided.

More about OLA's bill

E-Rate Consultant and the Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund

Currently, 10% of Oregon's public libraries have internet speeds lower than the FCC's current (and outdated) definition for broadband: 25 Mbps for downloads and 3 Mbps for uploads. With the FCC considering updating the definition of broadband to speeds of 100 Mbps

download and 100 upload, we risk up to 40% of Oregon public libraries not meeting this baseline for service. To tackle this, OLA is asking for:

1. A part-time consultant to contract with the State Library to act as a E-Rate consultant for all of Oregon's public libraries; and
2. \$750,000 to be directed to the newly created Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund, established by HB 4092 in 2022

Update: [SB 885](#), which funds the E-Rate consultant, was introduced in the 2023 Regular Session. The bill passed out of Senate Education to the Ways and Means Committee. See [Topic handout](#) by OLA Lobbyist Tess Milio for more information.

Stronger Media Standards and More Teacher Librarians in K-12 Schools

Research explicitly links a strong school library program with increased student achievement and graduation rates, which is why OLA is requesting the Legislature implement recommendations from the [Budget Note for Media Program Standards Study Report](#)

Update: [SB 1075](#) was introduced to require ODE to do specific work that will require they hire a new dedicated full-time staff position. The bill passed out of Senate Education to the Ways and Means Committee. See [Topic handout](#) by OLA Lobbyist Tess Milio for more information.

Questions? Reach out to Tess Milio at tess@miliocapitolconsulting.com