

JANEEN SOLLMAN
STATE SENATOR
DISTRICT 15



OREGON STATE SENATE

3/04/2026

Secretary Rutledge,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a vote explanation for SB 1501B

As my colleague from North and Northeast Portland shared, this bill is fundamentally about economic development. While some will rise to declare team pride, we must recognize the very critical point of today's economy – we need jobs.

Oregon's unemployment rate is one of the highest in the nation. Our building trades are facing some of the greatest challenges, with unemployment rates upwards of 20-50%. Our electricians, plumbers, sheet metal workers, and ironworkers want to get to work, and this bill creates incredible opportunities for them to do so.

Colleagues, Oregon's economy is facing a tough road ahead, and we must fight to get Oregonians back to work. We need to keep what we have, while working to secure strategic investments for new growth.

When we talk about keeping the Trail Blazers here at home, we are not just talking about jobs at the Moda Center, we are talking about the ripple effect of being a Rip City Nation. Hotels, restaurants, coffee shops and local stores benefit from the economic ripple effect of the Moda Center. Our public transportation also benefits when it moves people to games and concerts, and back home again.

Let's keep the shot clock running. Let's come together to think of ways to build our economy, build new jobs, build Oregon's pride for our beautiful state, and keep Oregonians here!

Let's send the message that the Moda Center and the Rose Quarter are open for business.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janeen Sollman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Senator Janeen Sollman
Senate District 15