



March 8th, 2023

Rep. Davina Duerr, Chair
House Local Government Committee

Subject: Please approve Senate Bill 5001 (Hawkins-Hunt) Public Facilities Districts

Dear Chair Duerr,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to share our support for SB 5001. As stakeholders in Chelan and Douglas counties, we pride ourselves in the ability to work together to meet needs and provide services without our region.

SB 5001 will provide our region with the organizational and financing mechanism to seek voter approval to form a second Public Facilities District for the specific purpose of constructing and operating a regional aquatic center-sports complex. The greater Wenatchee area utilized the Public Facilities District statute in 2011 to avoid a bond default for the Town Toyota Center in Wenatchee. As a result, our region is not authorized to utilize the statute to form for a second PFD without adjustments in law.

As our region continues to thoughtfully consider the possibilities of joining forces to construct and operate a regional aquatic center-sports complex and to potentially seek voter-approval, we need certainty that a sufficient organizational and financial mechanism is available.

We urge you to approve SB 5001 (Hawkins-Hunt) at the next available opportunity.

Thank you for your service!

Sincerely,

Dan Sutton
Douglas County Commissioner

Kevin Overbay
Chelan County Commissioner

Jerrilea Crawford
East Wenatchee Mayor

Frank Kuntz
Wenatchee Mayor

JC Baldwin
Regional Port Authority Commissioner

Jeff Wilkens
Executive Director, CDTC

Richard DeRock
GM, Link Transit

Dr. Andrew Jones
Confluence Health

Steve Maher
Our Valley Our Future

Steven Wilkinson
Wenatchee Downtown Assoc.