



September 22, 2020

Governor Kate Brown
900 Court Street, Suite 254
Salem, OR 97301-4047

Sent via U.S. Mail and electronically to Governor.Brown@oregon.gov

Dear Governor Brown:

The Oregon Public Records Advisory Council requests that you establish a direct budget for the council and the Office of Public Records Advocate for the 2021-2023 biennium. The Council voted unanimously on Sept. 17 to make this request while it advances a legislative proposal to enhance the independence of the Council and the Public Records Advocate. I write you in my role as chair of the Council and its direction.

You have voiced strong support for the independence of the Public Records Advocate and for the legislative changes proposed by the Public Records Advisory Council in 2020. The Public Records Advisory Council continues to support legislation to improve the independence of the office of the Public Records Advocate. Secure funding is necessary to ensure that the Advocate and Council's work to promote the cause of government transparency in Oregon can continue.

We look forward to working with you in the upcoming legislative session to make progress on shared goal of creating a statutory framework to solidify the independence of the Public Records Advocate and Public Records Advisory Council.

I would be happy to share any response you have to this request with the members of the Council. I can most easily be reached via email at becky.chiao@oregon.gov or by phone at (971) 345-1349. The Council can be reached directly via email at PublicRecordsAdvisoryCouncil@oregon.gov.

Regards,

Becky Chiao
Public Records Advocate Nominee