



July 3, 2020

**Support state and  
municipal public banks**

David Delk, OUUVfJ board member, explained the benefits of state and municipal public banks in a recent letter to the editor of The Oregonian newspaper.

Contact your state representative and senator to show your support for the establishment of an Oregon state bank. You can use David's letter below or write your own.

**Find your Oregon state Representative and Senator [here](#).**

And also contact your city officials and let them know of your support for forming municipal public banks, banking for the public good instead of private greed.

David's letter is on line on The Oregonian website [here](#).

*""The headline read "\$600B rescue program off to a rocky start" and details how the Main Street Lending Program and the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), the Fed's programs to assist small and medium sized business, have failed thus far in their missions. This is due in part because the private banks' participation in the programs was optional, creating confusion for those applying. Loan seekers had to search for a participating bank and then try to figure out how to apply for the programs. Many banks did not even know that the programs existed*

*"The case is so different in North Dakota, which has the highest Paycheck Protections Program (PPP) loan awards per worker of any state. Why is that? Because it has the nation's only state public bank. The North Dakota State Bank coordinated unemployment benefits through community banks and had the ability to educate local bankers on the programs' requirements before the programs were launched. This allowed rapid and easy participation.*

*"Why did it do that? Because a public bank's mission is to provide a public benefit and service. Private banks like Wells Fargo and Bank of American are run for the benefit of the bank's owners and shareholders.*

*The state of Oregon should investigate the benefits of creating a public state bank. And cities like Portland should investigate how creating public municipal banks can benefit a cities' people. Both should do so NOW!"*

Learn more about public banking at [www.publicbankinginstitute.org](http://www.publicbankinginstitute.org).or watch this cute, short [video](#) about public banking.