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Members 1000 Friends of Oregon 211info AFSCME Local 3135 Alliance of Family & Housing Success Bienestar CASA of Oregon Cascade Management Inc. Central City Concern Chrisman Development Inc. City of Portland Clackamas County Common Ground OR-WA Community Action Partnership of Oregon Community Action Team, Inc. Community Alliance of Tenants Community Housing Fund Community Partners for Affordable Housing **Cornerstone Community Housing** Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon Fair Housing Council of Oregon Farmworker Housing Development Corporation Habitat for Humanity of Oregon Hacienda CDC Coalition of Housing Advocates Housing Development Center Human Solutions Impact Northwest Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization Lane County Legal Aid and Advocacy Center League of Women Voters of Oregon Lincoln County Metro NAYA Family Center Neighborhood Economic Development Corporation (NEDCO) Neighborhood Partnerships NeighborImpact NeighborWorks Umpqua Network for Oregon Affordable Housing Northwest Housing Alternatives Northwest Pilot Project Open Door Counseling Center Oregon Food Bank **Oregon Housing Authorities** Oregon Opportunity Network Partners for a Hunger Free Oregon Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives, Inc. Proud Ground Raphael House REACH CDC St. Vincent de Paul of Lane County, Inc. ShelterCare Sisters of the Road Sponsors, Inc. Street Roots Washington County Welcome Home Coalition Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services

SB 244: Improving Housing Opportunity Programs

House Human Services and Housing Committee June 1, 2015 SB 244

Chair Keny-Guyer and members of the Committee;

The Housing Alliance is a coalition of more than fifty organizations from all parts of the state. Our members have come together with the knowledge that housing opportunity is the base on which all of our success is built – individual success as students, parents, workers, and community members as well as the success of our communities. We represent a diverse set of voices from residents to local jurisdictions to non-profit housing developers and organizations working to meet basic needs.

We ask your support for Senate Bill 244.

The Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) transition plan and SB 244 will ensure that the department is able to assume a stronger leadership role in statewide housing conversations. It will ensure that the various programs the department administers to increase housing opportunity are well aligned.

SB 244 continues the process outlined in OHCS's plan to make changes to its governance and service delivery structure.

We believe the changes included in SB 244 constitute the necessary next steps to ensure the department continues on its path to better fulfill its mission.

On behalf of the Housing Alliance, I urge your prompt consideration and support of this proposal, which promises to benefit all Oregon communities. Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Omar Carrillo Tinajero On Behalf of the Oregon Housing Alliance