



American Planning Association
Oregon Chapter

PO Box 28454 Portland, OR 97228

PHONE: (503) 626-8197

oapa@oregonapa.org • <http://www.oregonapa.org>

Making Great Communities Happen

Monday, March 20, 2017

Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer, Chair
House Committee on Human Services and Housing
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association testimony to the House Committee on Human Services and Housing **in support of** HB 2315.

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer and Committee Members,

The Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association (OAPA) is an independent, statewide, not-for-profit educational organization with 850 members that provides leadership in the development of vital communities by advocating excellence in community planning, promoting education and citizen empowerment, and providing the tools and support necessary to meet the challenges of growth and change.

Our organization has reviewed HB 2315 and support the bill as drafted. **We respectfully ask that the Committee vote the bill out of committee with a Do Pass recommendation.**

Thousands of Oregonians currently are rent-burdened—they pay more than 30% of their income on rent. HB 2315 makes a small, but important change to ORS 317.097. By allowing the savings from the excise tax credit to be passed on to the affordable housing tenants in the form of a reduced housing payment, this law helps the people that need it the most. This is a commonsense change that will benefit Oregonians across the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jeannine Rustad', written in a cursive style.

Jeannine Rustad, JD, President

Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association