February 15, 2019

House Committee on Human Services and Housing Oregon State Legislature 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer, Vice Chair Noble, Vice Chair Sanchez, Members of the Committee;

As the executive director at Community Partners for Affordable Housing, I am pleased to have the chance to share my support of SB 608.

Community Partners for Affordable Housing is a community housing development organization that serves Washington County and SW Portland. We have provided housing and services for 25 years and we know that housing is one of the most stabilizing forces for families and communities. We currently provide close to 400 units and another 92 units under development.

We know our residents and we see how valuable it is for low and moderate income households to be able to anticipate their rent as they make their dollars stretch. SB 608 does not preclude landlords from raising rents, but it does ensure that landlords must be reasonable and not displace households during times of rapid market increases in the cost of housing. This bill will prevent homelessness, allow kids to stay in school, and ensure that more people have access to the numerous benefits of a safe and stable home.

Thank you for all you do -

Rachael Duke

Executive Director

