



*Housing Oregon
Board members:*

March 25, 2019

*Sheila Stiley,
Board chair - NW
Coastal Housing*

Senator James Manning Jr.
Representative David Gomberg
Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on
Transportation and Economic Development
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

*Diane Linn,
Vice-chair - Proud
Ground*

*Travis Phillips,
Secretary
-Catholic Charities
of Oregon*

Dear Co-Chair Manning, Co-Chair Gomberg, and Members of the
Committee:

*Trell Anderson,
Treasurer -NW
Housing
Alternatives*

RE: [SB 5512](#) – Support - Appropriates moneys from General
Fund to Housing and Community Services Department.

*Rachael Duke -
Community
Partners for
Affordable Housing*

Housing Oregon is a membership-based statewide association of
affordable housing community development corporations (CDCs)
committed to serving and supporting low-income Oregonians
across the housing needs spectrum – from homeless to
homeowner. We support and strengthen our members by
providing training on industry best practices, peer support
networks, communications, and advocacy on local and statewide
policy issues.

*Ernesto Fonseca -
Hacienda CDC*

*Nkenge Harmon
Johnson - Urban
League of Portland*

We are working towards a day when every Oregonian has a safe
and healthy place to call home.

*Sean Hubert-
Central City
Concern*

Housing Oregon urges support for SB 5512 in order to ensure
Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) has the
necessary resources to address the affordable housing and
homelessness crisis affecting our state. We support Governor
Kate Brown's leadership proposing \$406.1 million in resources
and investments to focus on housing stability for families with
children, veterans, and the chronically homeless, as well as
accelerating the supply of housing throughout Oregon.

*Richard Morrow
-Columbia
Cascade Housing
Corp.*

*Lisa Rogers -
CASA of Oregon*

To effectively meet the challenge, however, we urge committee
members to support investing \$200 million in new rental and
homeownership development through the Local Innovation and

Fast Track (LIFT) Housing Program (POP 107). In addition, we support investing \$100 million to preserve existing affordable housing (POP 110)

Other OHCS rental, homeownership development and homelessness program budget requests we support include:

- \$15 million for Attainable Rental Market Acquisition (POP 111)
- \$15 million for Greater Oregon Housing Accelerator (POP 105)
- \$15 million for Housing Development Guarantee
- \$20.5 million for reducing children's homelessness (POP 108)
- \$50 million for EHA/SHAP (POP 109)
- \$20 million for Rental Market Resources (POP 104)
- \$50 million for Permanent Supportive Housing (POP 103)

Oregon's Statewide Housing Plan, recently released by OHCS, identified over 85,000 new units are needed to house those households earning below 30% of Median Family Income (MFI) in units affordable to them. OHCS' 4-year goal is to triple the existing pipeline of affordable rental housing – up to 25,000 homes in the development pipeline by 2023. We must do more.

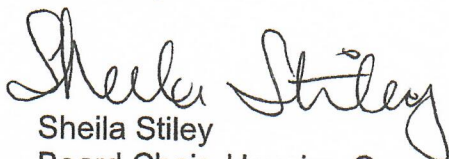
In order for OHCS to be able to successfully implement these programs and goals in the Statewide Housing Plan we urge you to support the Department's request for position authority to give them the ability to hire additional staff (POP 101 & 102). OHCS is currently understaffed, causing delays in housing development. Additional staff would help OHCS to more efficiently and effectively deliver current programs.

Oregon is at a turning point. Supporting this historic investment in OHCS to effectively address our state's housing crisis is a critical first step.

Please support SB 5512.

Thank you for your thoughtful attention to this critical issue. Feel free to contact either Brian Hoop at 503-475-6056 or Sheila Stiley at 503-270-3071.

Sincerely,



Sheila Stiley
Board Chair, Housing Oregon
Executive Director, NW Coastal Housing



Brian Hoop
Director, Housing Oregon