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Homes. People. Partnerships. Good. www.homesforgood.org

TO: Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

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

We at Homes for Good Housing Agency are writing to support SB 5512. Homes for Good is Lane County's housing agency, and our primary work is to help low-income residents with the logistics of affordable housing. At a higher level, we are neighbors united to get every Lane County resident who needs help, into a home. At Homes for Good, we believe everyone deserves a safe, stable, and affordable place to call home. Despite our work, and the work of other organizations in our community, there is a great need for increased help. In the January 2018 Homeless Point-in-Time Count, 1,642 people were counted as homeless in Lane County with 1,135 individuals without any form of shelter.¹

At Homes for Good, we are advocating for additional resources to support developing new affordable rental homes. We also are advocating for additional resources to maintain affordable housing. Homes for Good currently serves over 5,000 families in Lane County. We are managing 864 public and assisted housing units and providing rental assistance through 3,108 Section 8 Rental Assistance Vouchers, 211 Veteran Support Assistance Vouchers, and 80 Shelter Plus Care Vouchers; and are providing 15 million dollars per year to private landlords through rent assistance programs. Currently, our organization currently has a waitlist of 2,580, but with additional support, we could help serve these people in need. Additional resources would help Homes for Good create more affordable rental units, provide more assistance vouchers, and maintain our already built units.

We support the budget increase in SB 5512 for \$100 million to preserve existing affordable rental housing and \$200 million to develop new affordable homes across Oregon. The funding would be an investment in our community and would affect the lives of the residents across the state of Oregon. We would like to thank the Committee for your attention to this issue and for your service.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Fox", written over a horizontal line.

Jacob Fox
Executive Director

¹ <https://www.eugene-or.gov/3470/Homelessness>