

From: [Lane Thompson](#)
To: [LRO](#)
Cc: [Rep Nathanson](#); [Sen Hass](#)
Subject: Lane Thompson testimony on SB 2164 for 6-14-201
Date: Monday, June 10, 2019 5:28:43 PM

Dear Chair Nathanson and Chair Hass, and members of the Joint Committee on Tax Expenditures,

I am asking you to act to ensure that Individual Development Accounts remain available to Oregonians who need them. Please include the provisions of SB 790 in HB 2164.

Individual Development Accounts are a valuable tool to give Oregonians with low incomes the support they need to build a more secure financial future. The look on the face of a first time home buyer who used an IDA to make the dream of home ownership a reality is one of the most beautiful things I have ever seen. Matched savings accounts put previously unattainable goals within reach.

We need the Legislature to take action to keep the Oregon IDA Initiative working well in our communities, and we need to expand the reach of IDAs to more people. Year after year, there are long wait lists, and many more eligible people than there is funding. Folks lose access to housing, or their educational goals while they wait for available funding. With additional funding, we could reach more people, and have a larger systemic impact on poverty reduction in our state.

Thank you for all of your hard work this session, and thank you for your attention to keeping IDAs available.



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On Tuesday and Thursdays, I work from the Lloyd center.



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