

*from the desk of*  
SENATOR SARA GELSER

## **Yes on SB 491**

### **Housing opportunity for people experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities**

Senate Bill 491 will create housing opportunity for people experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities. The bill transfers the Fairview Housing Trust to Oregon Community Foundation.

For decades, people experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities were segregated from Oregon's communities and forced to live at the Fairview Training Center, an institution and hospital. When Oregon closed the Fairview Training Center in 2000, it created an innovative trust fund with the proceeds from the sale of the property. The trust is intended to support Oregonians experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities to succeed by ensuring community housing opportunities existed for them.

Since 2015, the Fairview Trust Advisory Committee, has been identifying priorities and opportunities to help people experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities to live in safe, stable, and affordable homes. The Committee has identified opportunities to partner with housing providers to help create accessible and affordable homes for people experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities, and to support people accessing these units. SB 491 will move the Fairview Trust to Oregon Community Foundation to support innovative partnerships that will further the mission of this Trust.

SB 491 maintains the community housing purpose of the Trust and will maintain oversight by the Fairview Trust Advisory Committee. This role is central to the mission and purpose of the Oregon Community Foundation, and they will continue to report to the Department of Human Services and the Advisory Committee.

**We have experienced non-profit housing providers across Oregon who can help to create housing stability and the opportunity that comes with having a safe, accessible, affordable place to call home.** With additional resources from the Fairview Trust and the Oregon Community Foundation, we can better serve people experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**SB 491 will help provide housing opportunity for people experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities. SB 491 maintains community oversight and the community housing purpose of the Trust.**

**We urge your eye vote on SB 491.**

