



February 10, 2020

Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer, Chair  
House Human Services and Housing Committee  
900 Court Street, NE, HR D  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 4084 – Pilot Fund for System Development Charges for Affordable Housing in Rural Oregon - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer, Vice-Chair Noble, Vice-Chair Williams, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to you today on behalf of the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) to urge your support for HB 4084, which would pilot a fund to help pay for System Development Charges to support the development of affordable housing in rural communities.

As you know, the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) represents all 241 incorporated cities in the state of Oregon. The LOC is deeply invested in increasing the development of much needed housing across the state. Cities across the state are seeking solutions to shortages in all types of housing and recognize that affordable housing is a critical component to meeting that need.

System Development Charges (SDCs) represent a valuable tool for cities to ensure that public facilities and infrastructure keep pace with new development by distributing the costs of increased services on new development, not on existing development. While some larger communities have adopted policies to offset the cost of SDCs for affordable housing, smaller rural communities lack the resources to do so. HB 4084 would provide Oregon's rural communities an additional incentive to encourage the development of much needed affordable housing. We urge your support.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ariel Nelson  
League of Oregon Cities  
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