

**Testimony of Anneliese Koehler, State Affairs Advisor
In Support of House Bill 4015 -7 amendment
House Committee on Rules
February 21, 2020**



Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee:

As you know, Metro is the elected regional government that serves more than 1.6 million people in the 24 cities and three counties of the Portland metropolitan area. We provide a broad range of public services that includes land use and transportation planning, solid waste and recycling operations, management of parks and natural areas, and operation of major visitor facilities like the Oregon Convention Center and the Oregon Zoo.

Metro supports the -7 amendment to HB 4015 because it makes necessary technical changes to HB 2003 from the 2019 legislative session. The -7 amendment directs Metro-area cities with populations greater than 10,000 to carry out the intent of HB 2003 by periodically conducting housing needs analyses and creating housing production strategies. The amendment also removes problematic language directing Metro to “allocate housing capacity.” This was originally included in HB 2003 because of a misunderstanding of a Metro process and we are pleased to see it removed.

With these amendments, we believe HB 4015 will enable governments in the Portland region to more effectively implement the original intent of HB 2003, which is to develop local strategies to ensure the provision of needed housing. We would like to thank the Speaker’s office, the Department of Land Conversation and Development, the League of Oregon Cities, and Metro-area cities for their hard work over the past few months in the development of this amendment.

Thank you very much for considering these comments.