

## **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

### **Housing and Community Services Department ARPA Emergency Rental Assistance**

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To: Ways and Means Full Committee  
From: Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee  
Carrier: Representative Gomberg

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On May 10, the Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommended approval of the submission of a federal grant application from the Housing and Community Services Department to the U.S. Treasury for up to \$223 million in Emergency Rental Assistance funding available through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

Funds are intended for rental assistance to renter households with incomes no more than 80 percent of area median income (or AMI). Households must have a member qualifying for unemployment insurance benefits, have experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced other financial hardship during or due directly or indirectly to the coronavirus outbreak; and one or more individuals in the household must demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability.

Jurisdictions with populations of 200,000 or above may apply directly for funds, and the City of Portland and Washington, Clackamas, Multnomah and Lane counties have indicated an intention to do so. For the balance of state, the Housing and Community Services Department plans to use its Master Grant agreement and network of Community Action agencies and their subgrantees to distribute the funding. No matching funds are required.

The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends approval.