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February 19, 2022

Sen. Kayse Jama, Chair and Committee Members
Senate Committee on Housing & Development
State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 4037

Dear Chair Jama and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of HB 4037**. 1000 Friends of Oregon is a nonprofit, membership organization that works with Oregonians to support livable urban and rural communities; protect family farms, forests and natural areas; and provide transportation and housing choice.

HB 4037 requires the Oregon Department of Administrative Services to use reasonable efforts to lease unused or underutilized state property to the city of Salem for use as transitional housing for people experiencing houselessness. This bill represents a creative tool and partnership to addressing this critical issue. We hope that it will prove to be a model for other cities and state agencies, not only for temporary housing but also for permanent housing. These un- and under- utilized properties include large parking lots and other properties, often well-located near the places people need to access regularly, like services, work, and stores.

We urge your support of HB 4037. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Kyle McCurdy".

Deputy Director