

Submitter: Destiny Magana-Pablo

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB2001

Dear Chair Dexter and Members of the Committee:

I urge your support of House Bill 2001, which addresses our state's urgent housing needs and long-term housing supply challenges with immediate action on several fronts.

As someone who's continuously faced housing instability and is working directly with families with children, housing costs and instability have burdened the livelihoods and security of our families throughout our community. I urge you to take action and support HB 2001 which supports families and children who are most vulnerable facing eviction or displacement. Housing insecurity affects employment, health, safety, educational progress, and more compounding aspects to daily life. Everyone should have the security, protections, and rights to help when our Oregonians, neighbors, and families are most vulnerable. Please support your neighbors, families, youth, communities, voters, and Oregonians by passing this much needed legislation to provide relief and the tools to address the housing crisis.

HB 2001, incorporating the amendments being considered by your committee on February 23, includes several important elements of the response to our statewide housing crisis. The bill will:

Provide essential and reasonable negotiated improvements to Oregon's eviction statutes to promote stability and payment rather than displacement and eviction. Expand investments in youth homelessness prevention, prioritizing services for school-aged children who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and their families.

Provide \$20 million in grant/loan funds for the construction of low-cost modular housing in wildfire-affected areas and for low- and moderate-income households.

Provide \$3 million in seed financing for the construction of affordable workforce rental housing.

Address our long-term housing production challenges by establishing enforceable standards for local jurisdictions to promote the production of abundant, equitable, affordable and diverse housing options.

HB 2001 reflects the urgency of the crisis too many Oregonians are experiencing due to lack of housing, inadequate services, and eviction statutes designed for displacement instead of stability.

We are grateful to legislative leaders for your bi-partisan, bi-cameral and immediate

action on this package. These measures will help our communities respond to the crisis of homelessness, improve stability and safety for renters across the state, and take essential steps to resolve our long-standing housing supply challenges.

Sincerely,

Destiny Magana-Pablo, United Way of the Columbia-Willamette