

Feb. 27, 2023

To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Transportation and Economic Development

Dear Co-Chair Woods, Co-Chair Gomberg and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dwane Krumme, and I am writing on behalf of Habitat for Humanity of La Pine Sunriver to urge your strong support for SB 5511, the Governor's recommended budget for Oregon Housing and Community Services.

Today, in Oregon communities of all sizes, too many of our friends and neighbors are struggling to achieve a stable and affordable roof over their heads. Many of our communities are contending with an unprecedented crisis of unsheltered kids, adults and families—potentially life-threatening during extreme weather conditions.

Governor Kotek's budget includes unprecedented investments along the entire affordable housing continuum. SB 5511 will help to ensure that the members of the communities we are grateful to call home can first and foremost live in health and safety. We appreciate that the Governor is seeking to significantly expand emergency housing resources—balanced with investments to help our state to meaningfully expand production of additional safe, affordable and energy-efficient homes available to Oregonians at a variety of income levels.

Highlights of this bill include:

- \$1.0325 billion Investing in Proven and Innovative Housing Supply Solutions
- \$415.45 million Total Investment in Homelessness Response and Prevention
- \$17.6 million Expand Homeownership Opportunities and Keep Homeowners in Their Homes
- \$7.5 million Asset Building for Low-Income Oregonians
- \$9.4 million Improving Program Access

The Governor's Recommended Budget includes over \$1.46 billion to address housing stability and community prosperity. Balancing the needs of Oregonians experiencing homelessness with addressing chronic supply shortfalls, the biennial budget represents the largest request any Governor has proposed.

Once again, I urge your strong support of SB 5511.

Thank you for your service,

Dwane Krumme, Executive Director