

March 8, 2023

House Committee on Housing & Homelessness
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE,
Salem, Oregon 97301

Chair Dexter and Members of the Committee:

The Special Districts Association of Oregon represents approximately 950 districts across the state that provide a wide range of services including parks and recreation, municipal water, wastewater, and storm water services. Those service providers oftentimes will charge SDCs to pay for the needed infrastructure that will serve new development. As a result, we would like to compliment Representative Lewis and support HB 3268.

HB 3268 would pilot a fund to help pay for System Development Charges to support the development of affordable housing in rural communities. Our members understand and appreciate that our state is facing a housing crisis and there is a tremendous need to develop more units of housing across the state.

System Development Charges (SDCs) are a critical tool for our members to ensure that public facilities and infrastructure keep pace with new development by distributing the costs of increased services on new development, not on existing development. Although some communities have been able to adopt policies that will discount the cost of SDCs for affordable housing, smaller rural communities oftentimes lack the resources to do so. This bill will provide Oregon's rural communities an additional tool to encourage the development of much needed affordable housing and we urge your support.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,



Mark Landauer
Lobbyist
Special Districts Association of Oregon