

March 9, 2023

Sheila Stiley, Board chair – NW Coastal Housing

Kymberly Horner, Vice-chair - Portland Community Reinvestment Inc.

Rachael Duke, Secretary -Community Partners for Affordable Housing

Kristy Rodriguez, Treasurer - Housing Authority of Malhuer & Harney Counties

Trell Anderson – Northwest Housing Alternatives

David Brandt -Housing Works

Wakan Alferes -Homes for Good

Rita Grady – Polk CDC

Maria Elena Guerra -Farmworker Housing Development Corp

Nkenge Harmon Johnson – Urban League of Portland

Brad Ketch – Rockwood CDC & Community Dev. Corp. of Oregon

Erica Mills – NeighborWorks Umpqua

Shannon Vilhauer – Habitat for Humanity Oregon Representative Maxine Dexter Chair, House Committee on Housing and Homelessness 900 Court St NE, H-283 Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for House Bill 2761

Dear Chair Dexter and Members of the Committee:

Housing Oregon calls on you to support House Bill 2761, which creates greater flexibility for Oregon Housing and Community Services to fund affordable homes within mixed-income developments.

HB 2761 will allow developers across the state to include regulated affordable units in a wider range of developments, including projects that may have been exclusively market-rate under the restrictions of current state statute. Greater flexibility to access affordable housing funds will enable developers to respond to local market conditions, community priorities, and the availability of other funding.

Housing Oregon is a membership-based statewide association of over 80 affordable housing community development corporations (CDCs) and ally organizations committed to serving and supporting low-income Oregonians across the housing needs spectrum – from homeless to homeowner. HB 2761 will provide our members with a broader range of development opportunities in this challenging economic climate to produce affordable homes in larger market-rate housing developments.

HB 2761 also supports equitable housing goals by facilitating the integration of regulated and market-rate homes in high-opportunity locations, leveraging the revenue from market-rate units to help make affordable units possible.

HB 2761 will retain the Housing Stability Council's authority to establish limits on mixed-income development and directs OHCS to conduct rulemaking to outline cost segregation between affordable and market rate units. We call on you to join us in supporting this simple yet important measure. Thank you very much for your consideration of our comments. You can reach me at 503-475-6056 or brian@housingoregon.org.

Sincerely,

Brian Hoop

Brian Hoop Executive Director Housing Oregon