



HOUSING SENIORS | CREATING HOPE | PILOTING CHANGE

March 21, 2023

House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

RE: HB 2892

Dear Chair Grayber, Co Vice-Chair Lewis, Co Vice-Chair Tran, and Committee Members:

I am reaching out today representing Northwest Pilot Project (NWPP), a social service nonprofit that serves your legislative districts. We urge you to pass HB 2892. Your support is critical to the health of the nonprofit sector and the communities they serve.

Northwest Pilot Project (NWPP) is a social service agency with over 53 years of experience in providing housing stabilization services to older adults experiencing or at risk of homelessness in Multnomah County. As a nonprofit service provider in the social and human services sector, NWPP's work is critical to older adults in Multnomah County because we are the only provider of senior-focused housing placement services. Multnomah County does not directly provide the services we do; they contract with us to do so because we are the experts in this area.

However, and as I'm sure you are aware, nonprofit organizations must secure funding from grant awards, individuals, business, and government contracts. Fundraising, and contract management are time consuming and expensive. Despite have a unique stream of revenue, however, does not mean nonprofit organization receive any unique exemptions from labor laws, IRS payroll rules, ADA compliance, etc. Nor do we get significant discounts or donations for rent, insurance, and other required management expenses. Employee compensation and benefits are the biggest cost center for nonprofit organizations, just as with for profit businesses. Nonprofits like NWPP need access to block grants and an expedited grant making process that will allow us to more efficiently get seniors into housing, and keep them there.

Northwest Pilot Project enthusiastically supports HB 2892 because it will:

- Provide funding opportunities for essential services nonprofits provide to our impoverished communities, both sheltered and unsheltered;
- Provide nonprofit leaders with the discretion to allocate funds in ways that best serve their clients;

- Streamline the application process for nonprofits with demonstrated success and fiscal responsibility; and
- Expedite the grant making process in emergencies, such as wildfires, which will expedite life saving services when Oregonians need them most.

Northwest Pilot Project appreciates your consideration of HB 2892. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Golino de Lovato', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Laura Golino de Lovato
Executive Director