HOUSING
OREGON

March 27, 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 3555

Chair Dexter, Co-Vice Chair Gamba, Co-Vice Chair Helfrich, and Members of the Committee:

Housing Oregon calls on you to support HB 3555 and provide full funding of $20,000,000 for grants to repair or replace agricultural workforce housing.

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. Our members include Casa of Oregon, Farmworker Housing Development Corp. and others who stand ready to construct and rehabilitate community-based farmworker housing addressing this population's housing needs.

Safe and healthy housing for Oregon's estimated 160,000+ agricultural workers is a critical component for maintaining a stable workforce. These workers are the foundation of Oregon's agricultural economy.

We call on you to join us in supporting HB 3555. Thank you for your consideration of our comments and for your public service. You can reach me at 503-475-6056 or brian@housingoregon.org.

Sincerely,

Brian Hoop

Brian Hoop
Executive Director
Housing Oregon

P.O. Box 8427, Portland, OR 97207