



April 3, 2023

Senator Mark Meek  
Chair, Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue  
900 Court St NE, S-417  
Salem, OR 97301

**Re: Support for Senate Bill 225**

Dear Chair Meek and Members of the Committee:

The Oregon Housing Alliance calls on you to recommend passage of Senate Bill 225, which makes simple yet important fixes to the process of allocating and distributing private activity bond (PAB) resources for affordable housing projects statewide.

The Housing Alliance is a coalition of over 100 member organizations, including local jurisdictions, housing authorities, grassroots community groups, tenant organizations, and housing developers from across the state. From this range of positions across Oregon's affordable housing landscape, our members have endorsed SB 225 as a priority for the 2023 legislature.

SB 225 will result in stronger coordination and strategic prioritization of PAB funding, by allocating all PAB resources through OHCS. In addition, this bill will eliminate the current 'blackout period' during which OHCS cannot move forward with financial closings for affordable housing developments. This change will prevent construction delays and associated cost increases, and necessitates an emergency clause in this bill to avoid cost increases this July.

We urge you to join the Oregon Housing Alliance in prioritizing passage of SB 225.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cameron Herrington".

Cameron Herrington  
Director of Policy and Advocacy  
cherrington@neighborhoodpartnerships.org