

Coos-Curry/North Bend City Housing Authority

Linn Benton Housing Authority Home Forward (Multnomah County) Homes for Good (Lane County) Housing Authority of Clackamas County Housing Authority of Douglas County Housing Authority of Jackson County Housing Authority of Lincoln County Housing Authority of Malheur County Housing Authority of the County of Umatilla Housing Authority of Washington County Housing Authority of Yamhill County Housing Works (Central Oregon) Josephine Housing & Community **Development Council** Klamath County Housing Authority Linn Benton Housing Authority Marion County Housing Authority Mid-Columbia Housing Authority Northeast Oregon Housing Authority Northwest Oregon Housing Authority Salem Housing Authority Vancouver Housing Authority

West Valley Housing Authority

4 May 2023

Housing Authorities of Oregon support SB 225 A

To: Chair Dexter, Vice-Chair Gamba, Vice-Chair Helfrich and Members of the House Committee on Housing and Homelessness:

The Housing Authorities of Oregon are, collectively, the largest providers of affordable housing in the state of Oregon. There are 22 Housing Authorities that serve all 36 counties. Our goal is to provide a safe, affordable place for Oregonians with low incomes to call home.

The Housing Authorities of Oregon support SB 225 A. While we are best known for providing long term rental assistance, we also are *developers* of affordable housing. Through that development, we have a unique connection to Private Activity Bonds (PABs).

Structured as public entities, Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) have the statutory authority to issue bonds for the development of affordable housing. Historically, PHAs have gone to the PAB Committee directly to request allocation of PABs for issuance. Now that the resource is constrained, we've worked closely with OHCS to develop a system for prioritizing PABs collaboratively, and SB 225 A makes necessary statutory changes to allow for a new way of allocating PABs in this constrained environment.

We appreciate the work put in by Director Bell and the team at OHCS to develop and finalize our agreement, and bring forward this important piece of legislation.

Please support SB 225 A.

For further information, please contact:

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HAO advocates for policies and resources that create safe, stable housing options for all Oregonians haoregon.org