



February 5, 2025

Representative Pam Marsh
Chair, House Committee on Housing and Homelessness
900 Court St. NE, H-474
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for House Bill 3035

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice Chair Andersen, Vice Chair Breese-Iverson, and Members of the House Committee on Housing and Homelessness:

The Portland Housing Bureau supports HB 3035 as introduced by Governor Tina Kotek for the Housing and Community Services Department (OHCS). This bill is an important step in addressing the housing needs of our community and expanding the authority and capabilities of OHCS.

PHB supports this bill for the following reasons:

1. **Expanded Authority on Financing:** The bill broadens OHCS's authority to issue financing for homeownership housing projects and lending, allowing for more effective responses to housing needs from organizations. The bill enables OHCS to refinance housing loans, providing financial relief and stability to homeowners.
2. **Support for Manufactured Housing:** It ensures financing for manufactured housing and lot purchases by manufactured dwelling park tenants, offering more affordable housing options.
3. **Loan Programs for Low-Income Families:** It provides loans to lending institutions to finance residential housing for low-income families, addressing the shortage of private lending funds.
4. **Support for Elderly and Disabled Housing:** It utilizes the Elderly and Disabled Housing Fund to finance multifamily housing for elderly households and persons with disabilities, ensuring support for seniors and people with disabilities are available.

House Bill 3035 will increase the supply of affordable and safe housing for lower-income families, elderly households, and persons with disabilities. By expanding OHCS's authority and financial tools, this bill addresses the critical housing shortage and supports the development of sustainable and inclusive communities. We urge your support on HB 3035.

Sincerely,

Helmi Hisserich, Director