

February 5, 2025

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

RE: Support for Senate Bill 117

Dear Chair Meek, Vice-Chair McLane, and Members of the Committee,

The Oregon Housing Alliance encourages you to support Senate Bill 117. This legislation extends the sunset of the local-option property tax exemption for vertical housing developments. This tool is used by local jurisdictions to incentivize the development of both affordable and market-rate housing. At a time when our state faces a severe shortfall of housing supply – and especially homes affordable to low- and moderate-income Oregonians – we need every tool available. This property tax exemption is a proven, effective tool, and the Housing Alliance calls on you to reauthorize it through SB 117.

The Oregon Housing Alliance is a statewide coalition of over 100 member organizations, including tenant organizations; affordable housing developers and operators; social service providers and shelter operators; Community Action Agencies; Public Housing Authorities; housing industry businesses and professionals; city and county governments; and community-based nonprofits and advocacy groups.

Our diverse membership is united by the belief that every Oregonian deserves a home that is affordable, stable, accessible and safe. In line with this core value, we urge your support of SB 117. This bill gives local governments an important tool to advance their local housing production goals – including the development of affordable homes that will serve current and future generations.

Sincerely,

Cameron Herrington

Oregon Housing Alliance

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