



February 12, 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 3235,

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Andersen and Breese-Iverson, and Members of the Committee,

The Oregon Housing Alliance is urging your support for HB 3235. 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.

Homeownership has been an essential component of wealth building and solving our housing crisis, allowing families to set down roots and build long-lasting stability. HB 3235 and the Amplify Oregon accelerated mortgage fund will allow many more people to achieve the dream of homeownership. The need for the Amplify Oregon Fund was identified through Legislative action to establish The Joint Task Force on Addressing Racial Disparities in Homeownership (JARDHO); this model was one of JARDHO's proposals.

This fund is built to match the community land trust (CLT) model. It provides a way to ensure homes stay affordable for future generations while still allowing buyers to accelerate their equity build-up. What makes this program so successful is the blend of capital bank investment with State resources allowing nonprofit lenders like the Network for Oregon Affordable Housing (NOAH) to greatly expand their impact. This product is not sold on the secondary market, it is held in Oregon and ongoing homeowner support is provided by Oregon-based agencies.

Our diverse membership is united by the belief that every Oregonian deserves a home that is affordable, stable, accessible and safe. To this end, we urge your support of House Bill 3235.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebekah Markillie', is written in a cursive style.

Rebekah Markillie
Oregon Housing Alliance
rmarkillie@neighborhoodpartnerships.org