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Maria Elena Guerra -Farmworker Housing Development Corp

Jackie Keogh – RootedHomes

Erica Ledesma – Coalición Fortaleza

Erica Mills – NeighborWorks Umpqua

Margaret Salazar – Reach CDC

Sheila Stiley – NW Coastal Housing February 16, 2025

Dear Chair Marsh and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kevin Cronin, and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of Housing Oregon, a statewide coalition of more than 120 affordable housing and community development organizations. Our members include nonprofit developers, property managers, and service providers who work every day to create and maintain safe, stable, and affordable housing for Oregonians. Last Wednesday, our Portland Metro Policy Council voted to support this bill.

We strongly support HB 2134 because it makes a small but critical change that will greatly impact tenants, particularly those who rely on Housing Choice Vouchers (commonly known as Section 8). Under current law, when a property owner issues a 90-day notice to vacate, tenants who successfully secure new housing may find themselves in an impossible situation—having to pay rent on both their old and new units at the same time.

HB 2134 would fix this by allowing tenants to provide a 30-day notice to vacate, ensuring they can transition smoothly into their new home without the financial burden of double rent. This bill is a common-sense adjustment that ensures fairness for tenants without imposing undue hardship on landlords.

Housing Oregon members support this bill because it aligns with our mission to promote stable housing and prevent unnecessary financial strain on renters. HB 2134 is an "aim small, miss small" policy—targeted, practical, and rooted in goodwill. It deserves your support.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We urge you to pass HB 2134.

Sincerely,

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Kevin Cronin Director of Policy & Advocacy Housing Oregon