

Chair Sollman and Committee Members,

Viridian Management enthusiastically supports community solar and SB 92. We are a provider and manager of low-income housing throughout the Pacific Northwest with 4,600 rental units and over 150 properties. We currently have 9 apartment complexes subscribed to community solar. We would like to see more solar access available in the state for our properties.

The costs of energy, insurance, maintenance, and labor are skyrocketing for these apartment complexes, while rent increases are being capped in Oregon. While we often think of housing as tenants and landlords, it is also correct to think of affordable housing apartments as businesses that must pay their bills and have balanced budgets. Before community solar was available in Oregon, there was nothing we could do about any of these rising costs.

As a stakeholder in solving the housing crisis in Oregon, we implore the state to give us tools to keep our housing properties solvent. Community solar is one of those tools and has helped us reduce our portfolio's energy costs by over \$26,500 each year through 583 low-income subscriptions.

Before community solar existed, we had little access to solar. Rooftop solar on an apartment complex is expensive and complicated, and none of our properties can afford it outright. Community solar is an easy way to access solar. Additionally, a significant portion of our properties are in rural areas with electric cooperatives. We wish we had access to community solar for these properties as well as our Pacific Power, PGE and Idaho Power service territory area properties. We also manage properties in Colorado and Washington and can see firsthand the advantages of robust community solar programs in those areas.

Thank you for your consideration on this important bill.

Marsha Moore

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President, Viridian Management

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## SB 92 Testimony\_2025-02-26\_Viridian Management\_FOR SIGN

Final Audit Report

2025-02-27

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