

HOUSING SENIORS I CREATING HOPE I PILOTING CHANGE

February 27, 2025

House Committee On Housing and Homelessness Chair Representative Pam Marsh Vice-Chair Representative Tom Andersen Vice-Chair Representative Vikki Breese-Iverson

## Re: Support for House Bill 3031

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Anderson and Breese-Iverson, and members of the House Committee On Housing and Homelessness:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 3031, which directs the Housing and Community Services Department to study housing issues and report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2026.

Northwest Pilot Project (NWPP) is a social service agency with over five decades of experience in providing housing stabilization services to low and very low-income older adults, aged 55 and over, experiencing or at risk of homelessness in Multhomah County.

NWPP supports House Bill 3031, including the -1 amendment that details the Housing Infrastructure Financing Program. Our organization urges you to ensure that affordable housing for very-low income populations (i.e., those in the 0-30% AMI category) is studied to better understand how certain populations (e.g., older adults, people with disabilities) will be served. Although affordable housing production at higher levels (e.g., 0-60% AMI, 0-80% AMI) are important and allow for "filtering" as described by the ECOnorthwest presentation to your committee, it is important to understand the short- medium- and long-term effect of not providing more housing units at the 0-30% AMI level.

With housing precarity and homelessness still rising for older adults we need action to change that trend and proactively support our vulnerable populations. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Alan DeLaTorre (aland@nwpilotproject.org).

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