March 11, 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 3145

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 3145, which allows OHCS to use Local Innovation and Fast Track Housing Program Fund moneys for factory-built housing, requires the department to hire a contractor to support the factory-built housing industry, and requires the department to report on outcomes to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly.

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 Multnomah County.

NWPP supports House Bill 3145, including the -1 amendment that details contract details if the bill passes. However, we encourage the Committee to consider two critically-important provisions that would support housing for older adults and people with disabilities:

1. Add language to Section 2(1)b that addresses the needs of "very low" and "extremely low" income households, in addition to "low" income households.

2. In Section 2(4), add the following subsection so the department is able to give preference to funding housing is accessible: "Provides plumbing inserts that are compatible with accessible bathrooms and kitchens;"

With these two additions, this bill will help address housing precarity and homelessness faced by older adults and people with disabilities.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Alan DeLaTorre (aland@nwpilotproject.org).

Alan DeLaTorre
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