



Chair Marsh, vice chairs, and members of the committee,

Sightline Institute is an independent, nonpartisan think tank working to make the Pacific Northwest a global model of sustainability. I work on our housing program, looking for ways we can affordably and efficiently house every Oregonian.

We're writing in support of HB 2735-1 and its proposal to "fix the funding" of individual development accounts.

A healthy and functional housing market, with low enough regulatory costs, can safely house most people. Most of our work involves identifying regulatory barriers that add needless costs to housing, especially within urban areas, so that market prices will be lower and public investments will go further.

However, no matter how functional the market, many Oregonians will never have enough income from work alone to safely achieve stable housing. To house everyone, some forms of public investment are required. IDAs are an established, efficient, and bipartisan way to use public money to get many people into stable housing. HB 2735 would let this good program's funding grow with inflation and end the disorderly process of one-off renewals. It deserves your support.

Michael Andersen
director, cities + towns