

HOUSING SENIORS | CREATING HOPE | PILOTING CHANGE

March 19, 2025

Senator Floyd Prozanski, Chair Senate Committee on Judiciary 900 Court St NE, S-409 Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for SB 703

Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to share testimony, on behalf of Northwest Pilot Project, in support of SB 703 which allocates money to the Department of Human Services to award grants to nonprofit legal service providers that cover the cost of client needs related to legal services.

Northwest Pilot Project (NWPP) is a social service agency that provides housing stabilization services to low and very low-income older adults, age 55 and over, experiencing or at risk of homelessness in Multnomah County. After years of working in affordable housing, NWPP knows that this proposal is critical to remove housing barriers for individuals in need. SB 703 will provide important funding to access critical legal services and affordable housing.

SB 703 will provide people access to legal counsel that they cannot afford on their own and will support nonprofits to provide essential legal services that could give many people an opportunity that is not currently afforded to them.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

Yoni Kahn Advocacy Director Northwest Pilot Project