



The League of Women Voters of Oregon, established in 1920, is a grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

March 20, 2025

To: Chair [Rep. Marsh](#), Vice Chairs [Reps Andersen](#) and [Breese-Iverson](#) and
Members of the [House Committee on Housing and Homelessness](#)

Re: [HB 2964](#) – Grants and loans for predevelopment costs – **Support**

Our support of HB 2964 aligns with the League of Women Voters of the United States position that persons who are unable to work or whose earnings are inadequate or for whom jobs are not available have the right to an income and/or services to meet their basic needs for food, shelter, and access to healthcare. Furthermore, states and local governments should assist by establishing effective agencies to aid, promote, coordinate, and supplement the housing programs of the federal government and the private sector.

HB 2964 (amendment -3) would give OHSC responsibility to administer a grant and loan program for predevelopment costs for new affordable housing for low-income households to rent or own. The department would also provide technical assistance to nonprofits who receive the funding. Eligible predevelopment costs include professional services; studies such as site feasibility; development fees, and community engagement.

OHCS would integrate this program into its existing Predevelopment Loan Fund with monies from the General Fund. Properties would be developed with affordability restrictions to ensure that they remain affordable for people with lower incomes.

Oregon's population growth has outpaced housing construction leading to a severe shortage of affordable properties. This bill will give our state's lower income households an opportunity to live in stable, new and affordable housing.

We urge your support and thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Handwritten signature of Barbara Klein in black ink.

Barbara Klein
Acting President LWVOR

Handwritten signature of Nancy G. Donovan in black ink.

Nancy Donovan
Housing Portfolio

Handwritten signature of Debbie Aiona in black ink.

Debbie Aiona
Housing Portfolio