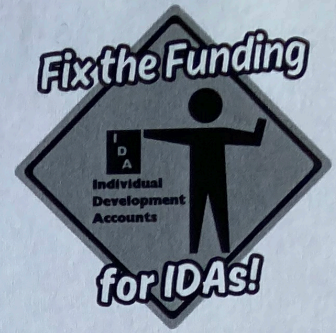


3/28/25  
date



Dear Co-Chairs Sanchez and Lieber and  
Members of the Joint Committee on Ways & Means,

**Please "Fix the Funding" for Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) in 2025.**

For the past 25 years, the Legislature has consistently invested in the stability and prosperity of Oregon's families and communities through the IDA program. IDAs match participants' own savings up to 5-to-1 to meet their financial goals including homeownership, starting a business, post-secondary education, purchasing a vehicle, and saving for retirement. Over 19,000 Oregonians – spanning every House and Senate district – have participated in the program.

Revenue from the state tax credit that funds IDAs has remained flat since 2009. **Without Legislative action in 2025, the IDA program will shrink to enroll fewer than 500 people per year – a 50% reduction in the number of Oregonians served.**

**Either HB 2735** (adjusting the tax credit cap) **or HB 3809** (dedicating lottery revenues to supplement the current tax credit) will return IDAs to solid, sustainable financial footing. **Please adopt one of these IDA funding options in 2025, to ensure that some 2,100 Oregonians can enroll in this life-changing program each biennium going forward.**

I've been privileged to help many families in Columbia County through my role at Columbia County Habitat for Humanity to either enter the housing market as first time homeowners or to fund critical home repairs. We also offer housing-related IDA's to residents of Clatsop County. This program has been critical in many cases in reaching success. This past fall, for example, the IDA program solved a crisis in a home of an elderly couple living without heat.

Sincerely,  
Please consider increasing the funding for this pivotal program.

signature Angela Carlson  
Esther A. Carlson  
name Deer Island 97054

city and zip code