



Portland Housing Bureau

April 1, 2025

Representative Nancy Nathanson
Chair, House Committee on Revenue
900 Court St NE, HR A
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for House Bill 3506

Dear Chair Nathanson, Vice Chair Reschke, Vice Chair Walters, and Members of the House Committee on Revenue:

On behalf of the Portland Housing Bureau (PHB), I am writing to express our support for HB 3506. The proposed legislation would transfer \$3 million from the Senior Property Tax Deferral Revolving Account to the Healthy Homes Repair Fund, for the purpose of supporting seniors and individuals with disabilities.

As Oregon's population continues to age, there is a growing need for homes that comply with ANSI A117.1 accessibility standards. This bill is a vital step in helping seniors and individuals with disabilities age in place by providing the necessary resources for accessibility modifications and repairs.

The Healthy Homes Grant Program, administered by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), awards grants to third-party organizations that, in turn, provide financial assistance to eligible homeowners and landlords for the repair and rehabilitation of homes. The program aims to address environmental hazards, ensure accessibility for disabled residents, and make essential repairs to maintain safe and healthy living conditions.¹

According to the prepared Financial Impact Statement of the proposed legislation, OHA estimates the allotted funding may serve as many as 3,000 seniors and people with disabilities.

We support the use of existing funds from the Senior Property Tax Deferral Revolving Account to help prevent displacement of seniors and individuals with disabilities by ensuring they can access the necessary repairs and modifications through the Healthy Homes Repair Fund. **We urge your support for HB 3506.**

Sincerely,

Helmi Hisserich, Director

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<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HEALTHYENVIRONMENTS/HEALTHYNEIGHBORHOODS/HEALTHYHOMESGRANTPROGRAM/Pages/index.aspx>