

Oregon House Committee on Housing and Homelessness 900 Court St. NE Salem Oregon 97301

RE: Support for HB 3939

April 3, 2025

Chair Marsh, Vice Chairs Andersen and Breese-Iverson, Members of the Committee,

Multifamily NW appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 3939, which extends the temporary Oregon Business Development Department residential infrastructure grant program by two years and appropriates much-needed funds for critical housing-related projects in specified cities.

Multifamily NW is the largest association of housing providers in the state, representing nearly 300,000 units and every profession related to the industry — from property managers and owners to landscapers, maintenance professionals and screening companies. Our top priority is to collaborate with public sector leaders to identify and implement proven solutions to Oregon's ongoing housing crisis.

Our state is facing an urgent housing shortage, and the costs of developing new homes —particularly affordable and workforce housing — continue to rise due to increasing construction costs, regulatory barriers, and infrastructure deficiencies. This bill provides a crucial tool to help communities overcome these challenges by ensuring funding for residential infrastructure projects that support housing development.

The original grant program has already demonstrated its value in enabling cities to invest in essential infrastructure — such as roads, sewer, and water systems — that directly supports housing development. Extending the program for two more years will provide certainty for local governments and developers working to bring new housing online. It will also allow projects currently in the pipeline to move forward without unnecessary delays, ensuring that more Oregonians have access to housing in communities where they work and live.

We appreciate the Legislature's ongoing commitment to addressing Oregon's housing crisis and urge your support for this bill. By extending this program, the state is taking an important step in facilitating new housing construction and making communities more resilient.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Clay Manager, Government and Public Affairs EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Gary Fisher gary@multifamilynw.org

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