

Submitter: Brandi Tuck
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB602
RE: Senate Bill 602 - Task Force on Modernizing Nonprofit Grant Funding and Contracting Recommendations

Path Home joins with Oregon's nonprofits to ask you to support the recommendations of the state Task Force on Modernizing Grant Funding and Contracting by passing Senate Bill 602. The recommendations are designed to improve the process and outcomes of government grants and contracts by empowering nonprofits to deliver critical services efficiently and cost effectively to Oregonians.

Path Home is a community-based organization that empowers homeless families with children to get back into housing - and stay there. Annually, we serve over 600 families with children each year - over 1,600 kids and parents. Our programs include Homeless Prevention, Emergency Shelter, and Rapid Re-Housing.

Our organization has been contracting with the Joint Office on Homeless Services, Multnomah County, and Home Forward for the last 16 years. The contracting process is cumbersome, lacks transparency, and wreaks havoc on a small nonprofit's ability to sustain cash flow and general operations. The billing reimbursement process has been particularly challenging to navigate, especially when we were a small nonprofit, because it can take anywhere between 2-12 weeks to get a reimbursement for funds already spent and used.

Senate Bill 602, if enacted, improves and streamlines how government grants and contracts are structured and administered. The Bill would make important changes such as offering advance payments to nonprofits, requiring agencies to track on-time payments, requires administrative support to ensure that nonprofits can cover indirect expenses, and encourages COLAs for staff.

To review all of the task force's findings and recommendations, we encourage you to read the full report.

We hope that we can count on your leadership in guiding the passage of Senate Bill 602. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Brandi Tuck

Executive Director of Path Home