

## House Committee on Housing and Homelessness Testimony in Support of HB 3939

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Andersen and Breese-Iverson, and members of the House Committee on Housing and Homelessness,

The Oregon Home Builders Association appreciates the opportunity to share our support for HB 3939 with the -1 amendments. By way of background, the Oregon Home Builders Association represents over 3,000 members engaged in the residential construction industry and advocates for homeownership opportunities for all.

As an association representing home builders, developers, and industry professionals across Oregon, we are committed to partnering with communities to address the state's pressing housing needs. We work to advance policies that promote housing production and affordability, recognizing the importance of removing barriers that hinder progress.

One of the most significant challenges in meeting housing production goals is the cost of infrastructure. The legislature took an important step to address this issue in 2024 by passing HB 4134, which directed the Oregon Business Development Department (OBDD) to provide grants for infrastructure projects supporting housing development. These grants come with key requirements, ensuring projects contribute directly to housing production, serve specific planned developments within a city's urban growth boundary, and include commitments from cities and property owners to produce new housing units within established timeframes.

HB 3939-1 builds on this foundation by expanding the program to include 11 additional cities and funds additional infrastructure projects, including those aimed at directly increasing moderate income housing. Oregon's cities need this critical support to overcome infrastructure challenges and meet housing production goals. By funding these projects, the state can play a pivotal role in removing one of the primary barriers to creating more housing opportunities for Oregonians.

The Oregon Home Builders Association strongly encourages the committee to vote "yes" on HB 3939-1.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments today. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions: jodi@oregonhba.com