

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

RE: Support for SB 814

April 14, 2025

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

On behalf of Multifamily NW, thank you for the opportunity to provide comment in support of SB 814 A, which represents a common-sense solution to meaningfully address housing instability for Oregon renters.

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.

SB 814 A is an important step in that direction, expanding long-term rental assistance to young Oregonians who need stable housing to succeed in education, employment, and life.

Oregon's housing crisis demands a multi-pronged approach, and targeted rental assistance is a critical piece of the solution. By modifying eligibility criteria and broadening the list of stakeholders consulted in the program's design, SB 814 A ensures that housing resources are directed efficiently to those who need them most. Young adults under 25, particularly those exiting foster care or experiencing homelessness, often face insurmountable barriers to securing housing. Expanding rental assistance eligibility will help stabilize their living situations, reducing future reliance on emergency services and public assistance programs.

Multifamily NW supports solutions that create real housing stability, and we believe SB 814 A aligns with our mission of fostering a functional and fair rental housing market. Housing providers play an essential role in implementing rental assistance programs, and we welcome opportunities to collaborate with the state to make these efforts as effective as possible.

We urge your support for SB 814 A and look forward to working together to ensure every Oregonian has a place to call home.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Clay Manager of Government & Public Affairs

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