

Submitter: Nikolai Ursin

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB684

To the Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Housing and Development, I am an affordable housing developer here in the Portland area and I am writing to you today as a deeply concerned citizen to express my strong support for Senate Bill 684.

Every day, I see firsthand the urgency of our state's affordable housing crisis. The individuals and families we strive to serve are facing increasingly insurmountable barriers to finding safe, stable, and affordable places to live. This crisis impacts every facet of our community, from our neighbors experiencing homelessness to working families struggling to make ends meet.

Senate Bill 684 represents a crucial step forward in addressing this challenge comprehensively. By establishing a Construction Revolving Fund, this bill offers a tangible pathway to creating more affordable housing options across Oregon.

From my professional perspective, a measure that creates a self-sustaining funding cycle, leveraging private investment while safeguarding affordability, is a welcome and necessary development. We need every tool at our disposal to increase the supply of affordable homes and ensure that all Oregonians have the opportunity to thrive. SB 684 also prioritizes public ownership to ensure long-term affordability and supports public-private partnerships to facilitate housing production, further enhancing its impact.

The affordable housing crisis demands a multi-faceted approach, and SB 684 is clearly a valuable piece of that puzzle. I urge you to support its passage and help us build a more equitable and sustainable future for our state.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nikolai Ursin