

May 8, 2025

Co-Chair Senator Fred Girod,  
Co-Chair Representative Rob Nosse,  
Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
    Subcommittee on Capital Construction  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

**Subject: Urgent Support for Workforce Housing – SB 5531**

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to express my urgent and unequivocal support for the Tillamook Bay Commons workforce housing project and to strongly advocate for its inclusion in the funding allocation provided by SB 5531.

This project, led by a nonprofit housing developer, will directly provide critically needed housing for healthcare workers, educators, and other essential employees in Tillamook County—individuals who are the backbone of our rural economy and vital public services. Without access to affordable, workforce housing, we risk losing the very people our communities depend on most.

As a third-year member of the Tillamook County Housing Commission and Tillamook County resident, I see firsthand the toll the housing shortage is taking on families, employers, and public institutions. The Tillamook Bay Commons project is not just shovel-ready—it is **fully pre-leased**, which shows how urgently our community needs this workforce housing. Tillamook Commons is situated in a prime location next to Adventist Hospital and close to the center of the City of Tillamook. It has already been awarded a very modest strategic investment (\$100K) from our Housing Commission's Tillamook County Housing Solutions Fund. Our available funding is very limited but represents the full support of our rural community; the state's help will be crucial to bringing this project into fruition. I fear this momentum will be lost if the final \$6.3 million in grant funding is not secured. That funding from SB 5531 is the critical piece that will allow construction to begin and homes to be delivered.

Tillamook County has consistently demonstrated leadership in seeking creative, community-centered solutions to our housing shortages. This project is a rare opportunity to make real progress on our rural coastal region's housing crisis. I urge you to act now and ensure SB 5531 includes support for Tillamook Bay Commons. The future of our workforce—and the health and stability of our community—depend on it.

Respectfully,



Kristin Koptiuch  
Member, Tillamook County Housing Commission (Finance Committee)  
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