



We build strength, stability, self-reliance and shelter.

May 9, 2025

Joint Subcommittee on Capital Construction
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for HB 5531

Dear Chair Girod, Chair Nosse and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jerry Ambris and I am writing on behalf of Habitat for Humanity of the Mid-Willamette Valley to urge your strong support for HB 5531. This bill provides essential funding for affordable housing development, including the \$100 million allocation to the Housing Infrastructure Fund.

As an emerging developer of affordable homeownership stock, we have seen firsthand how critical state investments—especially through lottery bond funding—can significantly accelerate the production of affordable homes throughout Oregon. Infrastructure costs remain one of the largest obstacles we face in scaling our operations. Roads, utilities, and site preparation are essential precursors to building, yet they are often prohibitively expensive and underfunded. HB 5531 addresses this fundamental barrier by providing the resources needed to unlock the potential of shovel-ready projects across the state.

We are proud to work every day toward building safe, decent, and affordable homes that empower families and strengthen communities. This bill would allow us—and organizations like ours—to increase the pace and scale of homebuilding, creating lasting, generational impact for Oregonians struggling with housing instability and cost burden.

In a time when Oregon is facing a severe housing crisis, this investment is not just timely—it is essential. We urge you to support HB 5531 and ensure that every Oregonian has a fair opportunity to access affordable, stable housing.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to addressing our state's housing needs. We look forward to working together to build a more equitable and sustainable future for all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jerry Ambris".

Jerry Ambris
Executive Director