Submitter: Andrew Hall

On Behalf Of: Housing Works Families Forward

Committee: Joint Committee On Tax Expenditures

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB120

I am writing on behalf of Housing Works and Families Forward in Central Oregon to advocate for your support of SB120-1, to raise the total tax credits that fund IDAs to \$14M per year. Please support this this essential program, as we seek to continue investing in financial goals and futures of Oregon households. As you know, the program has supported over 19,000 Oregonians in every legislative district across the state. Data shows that even in the face of increasing costs of living, Oregonians with IDAs experience improved financial capabilities and long-term stability. By raising the IDA tax credit cap to \$14M/year, we can enroll 1,750 Oregonians in an IDA each biennium through our broad network of over 60 community partners all across the state.

I manage the HUD Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program at the Central Oregon Regional Housing Authority, where I work with low-income individuals and families across all three Central Oregon counties. Our program is focused on helping participants increase their earned income and reduce or eliminate their reliance on public assistance.

To achieve this, we leverage a range of tools and resources designed to support families in building long-term financial stability. Among these, the Individual Development Account (IDA) stands out as our most powerful and effective tool. Time and again, the IDA has proven to be a source of motivation and hope for the families we serve, offering a clear path toward a brighter financial future.

While I could speak at length about the many benefits of the IDA program, I'll let the numbers speak for themselves. Here's a quick snapshot of the impact of our IDA program on Central Oregon families.

2020-2024

- 35 successful transitioned into homeownership
- 11 purchased vehicles
- 6 started small businesses
- 2 Home rehabilitation 2- post secondary education
- 3 Retirement 3 Emergency

Once again I would appreciate your support of SB120-1.

Take care, Andrew Hall Housing Work/Families Forward