



Re: Support for Individual Development Accounts in SB 120 -1

Dear Co-Chair Nathanson, Co-Chair Meek, and Members of the Joint Committee on Tax Expenditures:

On behalf of the Farmworker Housing Development Corporation (FHDC), we urge you to raise the tax credit cap for Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) to at least \$14 million through SB 120 -1.

Established in 1999, IDAs provide matched savings for participants to achieve financial goals such as homeownership, education, and business startups. This program has transformed the lives of over 19,000 Oregonians.

However, the tax credit funding IDAs has remained at \$7.5 million since 2009, failing to keep pace with inflation. This stagnation has led to supplemental funding from the general fund in recent budget cycles.

Increasing the cap to \$14 million will enable approximately 1,750 new participants to join biennially, bringing the total to approximately 2,000. Without this action, enrollment is expected to drop to 1,000 participants.

We strongly encourage you to include the proposed increase in SB 120 to stabilize the IDA program. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,  
Ramon Martinez  
Farmworker Housing Development Corporation