



Co-Chair Lieber, Co-Chair Sanchez and members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means,

The Housing Authorities of Oregon are collectively the largest providers of affordable housing in the state. There are 22 public housing authorities (PHAs) that serve all 36 counties. Our goal is to provide a safe, affordable place for Oregonians with low incomes to call home.

We are appreciative of all the work that this committee has done to support housing stability in Oregon. We realize that you now have a difficult task in front of you, as you contemplate cuts to balance the budget in this short session. We're writing to provide you our perspective on some of the proposed cuts that we think would be most damaging to our goal of seeing every Oregonian find a safe, affordable place to call home.

First, we respectfully urge you to avoid a **\$3.3 million reduction that would eliminate funding for the direct award contract to Housing Development Corporation**. This investment provides property management strengthening and asset management training for affordable housing providers statewide.

This funding protects housing the state has already invested in. Affordable housing properties increasingly serve residents with higher and more complex needs while also facing rising operating costs and aging infrastructure. Strong property management and asset management capacity is essential to maintaining financially stable, well-operated housing that remains safe and affordable over time. Eliminating this program increases the risk of property distress, deferred maintenance, and potential loss of units—outcomes that ultimately cost far more to address than preventive investment.

We also urge you to avoid reductions to the **Senior & Disabled Housing Development Initiative funded through HB 3589 (2025)**.

The Legislature originally provided **\$23.5 million for programmatic expenses** to support development of critically needed housing for seniors and people with disabilities. The proposed reductions would lower available program funding to **\$18.5 million**, a reduction of **\$5 million**, resulting in the loss of approximately **51 units of housing** that would otherwise be developed.

Taken together, these proposed cuts reduce Oregon's ability both to preserve existing affordable housing and to build new housing serving seniors and Oregonians with disabilities—populations facing some of the greatest housing challenges in the state. Demand for stable, accessible, and affordable housing continues to grow as Oregon's population ages and more residents require supportive living options.



HAO advocates for policies and resources that create safe, stable housing options for all Oregonians haoregon.org

At a time when housing affordability remains one of Oregon's most urgent challenges, reducing investments that both protect existing housing and limit production of new units moves the state in the wrong direction and ultimately increases long-term public costs.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the committee to avoid these reductions and maintain funding for both housing preservation and development programs.

Thank you for your consideration.