

Submitter: Joni Gullixson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On  
Capital Construction

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5702

I urge you to allocate \$100 million in General Obligation Bonds for the LIFT Homeownership Program in SB 5702.

Affordable homeownership is critical to Central Oregon's future. Today, many of the people who power our region — teachers, health care workers, tradespeople, and service workers — can't afford to live where they work. More than half of Bend's workforce commutes from outside the city, straining families, increasing traffic, and weakening community stability.

LIFT is one of Oregon's most effective tools for creating permanently affordable homes for first-time buyers. Many homes remain affordable long-term through community land trusts, allowing one public investment to serve generation after generation. Every \$1 million invested builds about five homes and leverages additional local and private funding. A \$100 million investment would create roughly 500 lasting, affordable homes statewide.

Oregon's housing shortage demands bold action. LIFT is a smart, long-term investment in workforce stability, economic resilience, and generational opportunity. Please include \$100 million for LIFT Homeownership in SB 5702 and ensure Central Oregon is not left behind.