2013 Session     Bill #: HB2639
Joint Committee on
Ways and Means     Pages: /
Trans/Econ Dev Subcommittee
Date: 5/16/13     Exhibit #: 4

**Oregon
Law Center**

WORKING TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE JUSTICE FOR LOW INCOME OREGONIANS

16 May 2013

**To:**    Sen. Betsy Johnson, Co-Chair        Sen. Chip Shields
       Rep. Bob Jenson, Co-Chair         Rep. Caddy McKeown
       Sen. Bill Hansell                Rep. Tobias Read

**From:**   Oregon Housing Alliance
        Oregon Housing Authorities
        Oregon Law Center

**RE:**     HB 2639

Dear Co-Chairs and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify a couple of provisions in the bill. The following reflects our understanding as active members of the work group that met with Speaker Kotek and later her staff to develop and then finalize this bill:

1)    The Statewide Housing Choice Advisory Committee shall encourage participation by all parties and shall produce a report to the legislature, which summarizes the issues raised by all parties and how they are being addressed. Section 6 (4) (c).

2)    Section 6 (3) (c) requires a PHA to assist landlords and tenants with service referrals. That service referral could range from having a staff person who provides direct service to each landlord or tenant who seeks help, to a periodic class, to a web site listing options, to a referral to the local 211 service, among other possible choices.

3)    Section 6 (3) (d) requires a PHA to provide a process for landlord input. That process could range from a PHA organized and/or staffed committee of landlords and tenants by a large PHA with plenty of staff capacity, to having a senior PHA staffer serve on the board of the local landlord group, to having a PHA staffer be a speaker at the monthly meeting of the local landlord group, to meeting informally as requested by the local landlord group, to providing an on-line comment mechanism, again among other possible choices.

Sincerely,

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Oregon Housing Authorities (Ryan Fisher; ryan@nwpublicaffairs.com)
Oregon Law Center (Sybil Hebb; shebb@oregonlawcenter.org)