



Member Organizations

211 Info

AFSCME Local #3135

Bienestar

CASA of Oregon

Central City Concern

City of Eugene

City of Gresham

City of Portland

City of Tigard

Clackamas County

Clackamas Housing Action Network

Coalition for a Livable Future

Community Action Partnership of Oregon

Community Action Team, Inc.

Community Alliance of Tenants

Community Housing Fund

Community Partners for Affordable Housing

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon

Enterprise Community Partners

Fair Housing Council of Oregon

Farmworker Housing Development Corp.

Habitat for Humanity of Oregon

Hacienda CDC

Homeless Families Coalition

Housing Advocacy Group of Washington Co.

Housing Development Center

Human Solutions

Impact Northwest

JOIN

Lane County Legal Aid and Advocacy Center

League of Women Voters of Oregon

Lincoln County

Metro

NAYA Family Center

Neighborhood Economic Development Corp.

Neighborhood Partnerships

NeighborWorks Umpqua

Network for Oregon Affordable Housing

Northwest Housing Alternatives

Northwest Pilot Project

Oregon Action

Oregon Food Bank

Oregon Housing Authorities

Oregon Opportunity Network

Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon

Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives, Inc.

Proud Ground

Raphael House

REACH CDC

Rose CDC

St. Vincent DePaul of Lane County

Shelter Care

Sisters Of The Road

Street Roots

Transition Projects, Inc.

Washington County

Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services

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HB 2510: Senior & Disabled Property Tax Deferral program

Members of the House Revenue Committee

900 Court Street, NE, Room 453

Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Barnhart, Vice-Chair Bailey, Vice-Chair Berger, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to you in support of HB 2510, related to the Senior & Disabled Property Tax Deferral program. The Housing Alliance is a coalition of organizations serving all parts of Oregon. We are concerned about the availability of safe, decent and affordable housing for all Oregon residents, particularly residents who have limited incomes. We come together as a coalition because we know the importance of a stable home in affording Oregonians the ability to maximize their potential and build better futures for themselves and their loved ones.

The Housing Alliance supports HB 2510 because we know that the Senior & Disabled Property Tax Deferral program has kept many Oregonians with fixed incomes in their home, stable and safe.

Today, too many of our seniors and people with disabilities who live on fixed incomes depend on the senior and disabled property tax deferral program for stability and to maintain their housing. There is no other program that offers this security.

We are requesting your support for the basic concepts in HB 2510, which will refocus the property tax deferral program on seniors and people with disabilities who own their own home and have the most limited resources. We believe the program can be expanded within existing and projected funding, while assuring the solvency and sustainability of the program into the future. The bill also seeks to improve the efficiency and management of the program. Additionally, HB 2510 will allow those who were in the program prior to 2011, and continued to be eligible except for having a reverse mortgage, to continue in the program. It will also extend an opportunity to those who did not reapply.

The Housing Alliance remains concerned about persons who hold reverse mortgages. We are also concerned about low income homeowners who might have moved within the past five years, assuming the continuation of this program, in an effort to lower housing costs.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony, and for your work on behalf of Oregon communities.

Alison McIntosh
On Behalf of the Housing Alliance