

# SPECIALIZED HOUSING INCORPORATED

4140 SW 109TH AVENUE • BEAVERTON, OREGON 97005

PAUL J. LASNER  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Subject: HB 4108

Date: 2.3.14

Members of the House Health Care Committee,

I am writing in support of HB 4108. I am the Executive Director of Specialized Housing Incorporated, a nonprofit that has since 1981 developed and managed housing for Oregon's most vulnerable citizens. This housing is designed to support a diverse array of physical and cognitive challenges. But, no matter how responsive the built environment is to these challenges there are very often complications that arise from existing conditions that necessitate additional supports (durable medical equipment). The cost of this equipment can be prohibitively high. In one project alone, Eliot Homes in Portland, serving 15 residents with severe and in some cases life threatening conditions there are 75 pieces of durable medical equipment in use on a daily basis. At our Pine Point Apartment complex in Portland residents with MS, epilepsy, traumatic brain injury, paralysis, and cancer use wheelchairs, walkers, hospital beds, overhead lift systems and other transfer devices, slings, positioners.... the list goes on. Specialized Housing operates 71 such projects serving people with disabilities throughout Oregon.

HB 4108 would make reconditioned equipment available to the people we serve at significant savings. It is difficult to overstate the impact these devices have on the quality of life for these individuals. Please support HB 4108.

I am available to testify in future hearings as this bill progresses.

Thank you for your support.

Regards,  
Paul Lasner  
Executive Director  
Specialized Housing Incorporated  
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