



## Deborah Kafoury Multnomah County Chair

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March 9, 2015

Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer, Chair  
House Committee on Human Services and Housing  
900 Court St NE, Hearing Room D  
Salem OR 97301

Re: Support for House Bill 3082

I am writing in support of HB 3082, which provides stability for families living in housing operated by nonprofit organizations.

Multnomah County is facing a critical shortage of affordable housing available for low income families. Our county has employed all available tools to incentivize and create development of affordable housing, including granting limited tax exemptions and donating tax foreclosed properties for low income housing purposes. We also provide rental assistance and supportive services to keep families housed.

Families whose incomes are at 60% AMI at initial occupancy of housing can face eviction under current Oregon statute if their income rises even one dollar over the income limit. HB 3082 gives local jurisdictions the option of allowing families to remain in the housing as they stabilize and increase their household income up to 80% AMI. For a family of four in Portland, that means a household income of up to \$55,500.

Families who are working to improve their lives shouldn't be penalized just as they begin to achieve better futures for their children. I believe that HB 3082 balances our efforts to provide affordable housing to those most in need with our investments in families who are working to attain self-sufficiency.

I urge you to support this important legislation to assist low-income families remain in their housing as they work to improve their lives.

Sincerely,

Deborah Kafoury, Chair  
Multnomah County