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Members 1000 Friends of Oregon 211info **AFSCME Local 3135** Alliance of Family & Housing Success Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon **Bradley Angle Bienestar CASA of Oregon** Cascade Management Inc. **Central City Concern** Chrisman Development Inc. **City of Portland Clackamas County Coalition of Communities of Color Coalition of Community Health Clinics Community Action Partnership of Oregon** Community Action Team, Inc. **Community Alliance of Tenants** Community Housing Fund Community Partners for Affordable Housing **Cornerstone Community Housing** Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon **Enterprise Community Partners** Fair Housing Council of Oregon Farmworker Housing Development Corporation Habitat for Humanity of Oregon Hacienda CDC **Coalition of Housing Advocates Housing Development Center** Human Solutions Impact Northwest **Immigrant & Refugee Community** Organization Lane County Legal Aid and Advocacy Center League of Women Voters of Oregon Lincoln County Metro **Metropolitan Affordable Housing** Momentum Alliance NAYA Family Center Neighborhood Economic Development Corporation **Neighborhood Partnerships** NeighborImpact NeighborWorks Umpqua Network for Oregon Affordable Housing Northwest Housing Alternatives Northwest Pilot Project **Open Door Counseling Center 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 St. Vincent de Paul of Lane County, Inc. ShelterCare Sisters of the Road Sponsors, Inc. Street Roots **Transition Projects Urban League of Portland** Washington County Welcome Home Coalition Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services

HB 2198 -1: Expanding Housing Opportunity

House Human Services and Housing Committee April 20, 2015 HB 2198

Chair Keny-Guyer and members of the Committee,

The Housing Alliance is a coalition of more than fifty organizations from all parts of the state. Our members have come together with the knowledge that housing opportunity is the base on which all of our success is built — individual success as students, parents, workers, and community members as well as the success of our communities. We represent a diverse set of voices from residents to local jurisdictions to non-profit housing developers and organizations working to meet basic needs.

We ask your support for House Bill 2198 and the proposed -1 amendments. This bill would move forward the proposed \$100 million investment in meeting housing needs across Oregon and set parameters for the use of the bond proceeds. You have heard compelling evidence this session of the severity and breadth of housing needs. In all Oregon communities we lack resources to address housing. This proposal to develop homes is a significant and exciting step forward.

The \$100 million investment will:

- Let Oregon communities innovate as they build new homes: State investment will leverage local resources and local ingenuity – land, local government resources, private capital, and local community donations – and avoid federal restrictions.
- Meet the range of community housing needs—rural, urban, and suburban—with flexible funds.
- More than double our impact. Oregon Housing and Community Services estimates 3,000 to 4,000 new units could be built to affordably house 12,000 to 16,000 people, while current resources only reach about 1,300 households a year.

Partners are ready to work, ready to leverage state resources and move forward innovative strategies to solve their local housing needs. We expect that this funding mechanism will enable us to simplify financial structures and reduce layers of external regulations while maintaining oversight and ownership share.

HB 2198 with the -1 amendments will build Oregon's future. On behalf of

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the Housing Alliance, I urge your prompt consideration and support of this historic investment. Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

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Omar Carrillo Tinajero On Behalf of the Oregon Housing Alliance