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April 20, 2015

To: Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services and Early Childhood

Re: In support of SB 592 – proposed amendment to establish a Task Force on Affordable Manufactured Home Park Living

Dear Chair Gelser and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to share our support for the proposed amendment to SB 592, which replaces the original content lifting the statewide ban on inclusionary zoning (now carried via HB 2564-A, which we continue to strongly support).

We support the proposed amendment to SB 592, which establishes a new Task Force on Affordable Manufactured Home Park Living.

As you know, the residents of manufactured housing are predominantly seniors, veterans, people with disabilities and other vulnerable populations. Oregon ON is the statewide association of affordable housing and community development organizations that provide housing and economic opportunity for working families, people with disabilities, seniors and others struggling to meet their needs in communities throughout Oregon. We see the preservation of manufactured home parks, and support for keeping residents in their homes, as a key strategy to provide safe, decent, affordable housing to meet the acute shortage of affordable housing in our state. It is vital to protect manufactured home owners from predatory and inappropriate rent increases. The task force as described will bring all parties to the table with a clear and focused charge.

We greatly appreciate Senator Gelser's leadership in bringing forward this amendment. We look forward to engaging with the task force as it considers the problem and brings forth solutions to ensure that vulnerable residents of manufactured homes can remain in their homes.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'John Miller'.

John Miller
Executive Director