



**Bill Hall
County Commissioner**

Courthouse, Room 110
225 W. Olive Street
Newport, Oregon 97365
(541) 265-4100
FAX (541) 265-4176

April 28, 2015

Senator Sara Gelser, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services and Early Childhood
900 Court Street SE, Hearing Room B
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for House Bill 3082

Dear Senator Gelser and Committee Members,

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

Lincoln County faces a critical shortage of affordable housing available for low-income families. Our county utilizes the nonprofit affordable housing tax exemption (ORS 307.540-548) that this measure will slightly revise, to assure that Lincoln County families have stable affordable housing and nonprofit resident services that increase their self-sufficiency.

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 current 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 Lincoln County, that means a household income of up to \$44,500.

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,

Bill Hall

