



homeforward

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Executive Office

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May 7, 2015

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Capital Construction Sub-Committee of Ways and Means
Oregon Housing and Community Services Bond Package

Co-Chair Girod, Co-Chair Read, Members of the Committee:

I am writing to support the proposal to build a more equitable future for Oregon with a historic investment of \$100 million for affordable homes for families with low incomes.

We know that communities can't succeed without homes that all of its residents can afford. In Multnomah County, the challenge low-income families have finding a home is acute. Our waiting lists are a good barometer of need – when we open waiting lists for our apartment communities with rent subsidies we typically get thousands of applicants for a property that has less than 100 apartments.

We can solve this problem by building more homes affordable for families with low incomes. In the process, we will strengthen communities and boost local economies. Statewide, the funds will be an estimated 3,000 to 4,000 new homes, which could affordably house 12,000 to 16,000 people.

We can choose to invest in our communities and create a better future for the next generation. We urge your careful consideration of, and support for, this proposed historic investment in homes in Oregon.

Thank you for your service to all Oregonians.

Sincerely,

Michael Buonocore
Executive Director