

**Kate Brown**  
Governor



**Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office**  
"Advocating Equality and Diversity"  
1819 SW 5th Ave., Portland, OR 97201  
O 503.302.9725 / F 503.473.8519  
Email: [oaco.mail@oregon.gov](mailto:oaco.mail@oregon.gov)

Testimony in support of HB 2734  
Wednesday, May 13, 2015, 1 pm, HR A  
House Committee on Revenue

Chair Barnhart, Vice-Chairs Bentz and Vega Pederson, and  
Representatives Davis, Johnson, Lininger, Read, Smith Warner and  
Whitsett:

The Oregon Commissions on Black Affairs and Hispanic Affairs urge  
your positive consideration of HB 2734 which allows municipalities to  
acquire contaminated land, restore it and repurpose it with the help of tax  
incentives and other tools associated with establishing a land bank.

The OCBA and OCHA have a long standing interest in addressing the  
environmental hazards that affect the health of communities of color and  
blight poor neighborhoods. These hazards reduce the potential of an area  
while taking key pieces of property out of the economic and social life of  
cities and towns. Every part of Oregon shares this issue; rural and urban  
alike. The effect is the same everywhere.

While the positive effect on struggling neighborhoods will be great,  
providing municipalities with the tools to remediate this land and return it  
as a useful part of neighborhood and town life is important to all of  
Oregon's citizens and cities large and small.

We urge you to vote yes on HB 2734.

Sincerely,

James Manning, Chair  
OCBA

Alberto Moreno, Chair  
OCHA

**OR Commission on Asian and  
Pacific Islander Affairs**

Stephen Ying, Chair  
Mari Watanabe, Vice Chair  
Legislative Liaisons:  
Sen. Michael Dembrow  
Rep. Gene Whisnant

**OR Commission on Black Affairs**

James I. Manning Jr., Chair  
James Morris, Vice Chair  
Legislative Liaisons:  
Sen. Rod Monroe  
Rep. Lew Frederick

**OR Commission on Hispanic Affairs**

Alberto Moreno, Chair  
John Haroldson, Vice Chair  
Legislative Liaisons:  
Sen. Chip Shields  
Rep. Jessica Vega Pederson

**OR Commission for Women**

Stephanie Vardavas, Chair  
Jeanne Burch, Vice Chair  
Legislative Liaisons:  
Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson  
Rep. Betty Komp

**Staff**

Lucy Baker, Administrator  
Nancy Kramer, Executive Assistant