

Capital Construction Sub-Committee of Ways and Means
Lottery-Backed Bonds for Preservation
Co-Chair Girod, Co-Chair Read, Members of the Committee:

I am Trell Anderson , the Director of Housing and Community Development at Catholic Charities of Oregon. We provide a wide range of supportive services to all people in need including: refugee resettlement, immigration legal services, support for young pregnant women and new babies, transitioning homeless women from street life; and cultural specific services to 15,000 Latino community members with anti-poverty programs, school-based programs, and helping women escape domestic violence and sexual assault. We have an affordable housing portfolio of 585 units in 16 properties with various support for seniors, youth and people with special needs. We serve all of western Oregon.

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the \$20 Million lottery-backed Bonding proposal to preserve currently affordable homes. We are aware of several properties in southern Oregon counties and on the coast that are at risk of being converted to market rate properties – losing their affordability and displacing seniors, young families, people with disabilities, and Veterans. We are hoping to play a role in acquiring and preserving this properties, and we need resources like the \$20 Million lotter-backed bonds to do so.

We know that our communities can't succeed without homes. However, we are at risk of decreasing the number of homes affordable to people with low incomes. Across the state thousands of people with extremely low incomes (less than \$10,000 a year) live in homes with federal rent subsidies and in manufactured home parks which are at risk of conversion to market rate.

The proposed \$20 Million will allow the public-private partnership of the Oregon Housing Preservation Project (OHPP) to continue on its success helping families, seniors, and people with disabilities who are living on very low incomes stay in their homes and in their communities.

Across all of our programs, accessing and retaining housing is the number one problem for our clients.

We cannot afford to lose this precious resource and risk displacement of our neighbors. This proven public-private partnership can save these homes and leverage private and federal resources with the investment of Lottery Backed Bonds.

We urge your careful consideration of, and support for continuing this investment and ensuring our most vulnerable community members continue to have a safe, stable, affordable place to call home.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Trell Anderson
Director of Community Development and Housing



Administration

Catholic Charities

Providing Help, Creating Hope

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