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

I work for the Housing Development Center, a nonprofit consulting group that provides technical assistance to affordable housing providers across Oregon. I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the $20 Million lottery-backed Bonding proposal to preserve currently affordable homes.

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.

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,
Emily Schelling

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Please note that I work Mondays through Thursdays.

Housing Development Center's mission is to strengthen opportunities for low-income families and individuals by developing, preserving and sustaining affordable housing and community facilities.