

May 15, 2015

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 Mary Ellen Skarie from the Overlook Neighborhood of North Portland. I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the proposal to build Oregon's future by supporting a historic investment of \$100 million for affordable homes for families with low incomes.

We know that our communities can't succeed without homes. We can help solve this problem by building homes affordable to families with low incomes. In the process, we can strengthen North Portland's communities, and boost local economies.

My community, like dozens of communities throughout the state, is ready to unleash the ingenuity, innovation and hard work that has defined Oregon for centuries. We can choose to invest in people and create a better future for the next generation. We urge your careful consideration of, and support for, this proposed historic investment in homes for Oregon.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Skarie

1503 N. Emerson St.

Portland, OR 97217