



CASCADIA ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

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February 1, 2016

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer and Members of the Human Services and Housing Committee:

Cascadia is an affordable housing and mental health service provider and we are very concerned about the alarming number of people with mental health issues that cannot find decent affordable housing. Many cities in Oregon are experiencing the same low vacancy rates (our average vacancy is now down to 2-3%) and extreme shortage of affordable housing units. The senate must act on supporting this very important measure for the health of our state.

We know that a stable, safe place to call home is the key to success. We know the policy and resource strategies that can put us back on track to meeting the housing needs of the most vulnerable Oregonians.

We urge you to take bold action this session for housing opportunity, including immediate adoption of HB 4001. In addition to emergency renter protections and lifting the ban on Inclusionary Zoning through HB 4001, we also urge the Legislature to invest in housing development, preservation, and homelessness prevention.

Thank you very much for your consideration of HB 4001, and for all your work on behalf of Oregonians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Jonsson", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Margaret Jonsson

Senior Director, Housing Development and Management

Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.