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TO: Chair Keny-Guyer  
Members of the House Committee on Human Services and Housing

FR: The Oregon AFL-CIO

RE: **Support for HB 4001, HB 4143 and Efforts to Alleviate Oregon's Housing Crisis**

February 1, 2016

The Oregon AFL-CIO, representing over 300,000 working Oregonians, is a voice for all workers in the legislative process. As we consider our role as a worker advocate, we cannot overlook the significant and increasing barriers that workers across the state face as they look for stable housing solutions for themselves and their families.

Too many Oregonians are struggling to find safe, affordable, and accessible housing anywhere near where they work, which is a difficulty that impacts all aspects of a workers' day and life. With approximately 40% of Oregonians as renters, and egregious examples of problems in every corner of the state facing renters including no-cause eviction notices with 30 days' notice, exorbitant rent increases with little notice, and fear of retaliation for requesting the most basic repairs of their landlords, Oregon workers and renters need relief.

While no single policy solution will truly solve Oregon's housing crises, protections for Oregon renters must be a part of any solution. By ensuring that tenants receive at least 90 days' notice prior to a no-cause eviction, requiring landlords to provide at least 90 days' notice prior to any rent increase, and placing some protections against retaliation for renters requesting repairs of their landlord, Oregon can take an important step forward on easing the burden faced by Oregon workers and renters in this incredibly tight housing market.

**The Oregon AFL-CIO strongly urges your support for HB 4001, HB 4143 and other efforts to help ease the housing burden facing Oregon workers.**