

House Committee on Rules February 15, 2016 Hearing on HB 4143

Testimony from Peter Hainley, Executive Director Community and Shelter Assistance Corp. (CASA of Oregon)

Chair Williamson and members of the House Rules Committee:

For 28 years, CASA of Oregon has worked in rural communities to ensure that farmworkers and other low income populations have access to safe, decent and affordable housing.

Many of the problems seen in the larger cities of Oregon are also happening in rural parts of the state. While many of the components of HB 4143 were formulated in response to the dire situation in Portland, Bend and other cities, this bill will provide the tools needed to give cities and low income families opportunities not previously afforded to them.

Providing emergency tenant protections in the current environment is the right thing to do. A proper balance between the rights and responsibilities of landlords and tenants is crucial to ensuring a functioning society. We believe HB 4143 provides that.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony and we encourage the committee to support this bill.

Kind Regards,

Peter Hainley Executive Director