



Chair Hass and members of the Senate Revenue Committee,

Thank you, for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the -A6 amendments for SB 1533. Oregon AFSCME Council 75 is a statewide organization that represents employees at cities, counties and local housing authorities. Our members may be experiencing the impacts of the housing crisis personally, or they may know the depth of the issue through the work they do. One thing is clear, the housing crisis is not limited to our larger cities and passing legislation that allows each community in the state to build a program that works for them is of the utmost importance. We believe that while, imperfect, the –A6 amendments .

We are appreciative that there is some flexibility built in to the bill to allow for local governments to craft programs that work for their communities. We do have some concerns that our smaller communities are being left out, but believe that other provisions will help get much needed housing built. We are particularly appreciative that cities and counties will be able to craft policies that could provide housing for lower income earners as well as those above 80% of area median income.

We know that failing to pass something leaves us exactly where we are with too many people struggling to find housing.