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March 8, 2017

Chair Mark Hass
Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue
State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: SB 1:

Dear Senator Hass and Committee Members:

1000 Friends of Oregon supports Senate Bill 1. 1000 Friends is a nonprofit, membership organization that works with Oregonians to support livable urban and rural communities; protect family farms, forests and natural areas; and provide transportation and housing choice. Senate Bill 1 represents the intersection of two issues on which we work closely: affordable housing and the economic health of Oregon's #2 industry – agriculture.

Senate Bill 1 would establish the Agricultural Workforce Housing Operations tax credit, designed to be focused on the operational aspects of preserving existing and providing additional on-farm housing. Especially when coupled with existing agricultural worker housing tax credits and other funding sources, SB 1 will contribute to safe, stable housing opportunities for Oregon's agricultural workers and their families.

We urge the Committee to support Senate Bill 1. Thank you for consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Kyle McCurdy".

Mary Kyle McCurdy
Deputy Director