



Community And Shelter Assistance Corporation

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**House Committee on Human Services and Housing
March 9, 2017
Hearing on HB 2006**

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

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

Much thought went into, and many organizations contributed to, the development of HB 2006. This is a modest proposal to reform Oregon's mortgage interest deduction (MID). The majority of Oregon homeowners will not be affected by HB 2006.

HB 2006 directs the revenue from changes to the MID to be invested in existing affordable housing programs at Oregon Housing and Community Services:

- 50% to the Homeownership Assistance Account (which funds affordable home development, down payment assistance and homebuyer education);
- 25% to the General Housing Account (for development and preservation of affordable rental housing);
- 25% to the Emergency Housing Account (funds the Emergency Housing Assistance for homelessness prevention).

Through HB 2006, we can generate revenue that will enable the State to invest in proven programs that address the continuum of housing needs from homelessness to rental housing to homeownership. By reforming Oregon's MID, we can give equitable access for thousands more Oregon families to the stability and prosperity of homeownership, which is the supposed aim of the MID.

We support this historic measure, which will be a game-changer for our collective ability to ensure that every Oregonian has a safe, stable, affordable place to call home. We urge your support of HB 2006, and we thank you as always, for your service to Oregon.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Hainley".

Peter Hainley
Executive Director