



March 20, 2017

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

I write on behalf of Oregon Opportunity Network (Oregon ON) to urge your support for HB 3357, which will double the Document Recording Fee and provide critical, flexible funds to affordable housing. This bill's modest \$20 increase in the fee will generate an additional \$24,000,000 per biennium to help tackle our statewide housing crisis.

As you know, Oregon ON members around the state provide affordable housing and services across the continuum from preventing and ending homelessness; to building and preserving affordable rental housing; to creating affordable homeownership opportunity through development, repairs, homebuyer education, and downpayment assistance. Our members know first-hand the impact of the Document Recording Fee in the work they do to house and support vulnerable Oregonians. In testimony from our members and other partners, you'll be hearing how vital this resource is for addressing the entire continuum of housing needs in our state.

With such great uncertainty for housing funding and policy at the Federal level, now more than ever we need Oregon-based solutions like the Document Recording Fee. A \$20 increase in the fee will be absolutely negligible in any real estate transaction – yet its combined impact will give a crucial boost to our collective efforts to stabilize neighborhoods and communities by providing more Oregonians with the safety and stability of home.

We urge your support of HB 3357, and we thank you as always, for your service to Oregon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jerome Brooks'.

Jerome Brooks
Executive Director

Oregon ON member organizations

Statewide

CASA of Oregon
Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare
Catholic Charities
Enterprise Community Partners
Habitat for Humanity of Oregon
Housing Development Center
NOAH (Network for Oregon Affordable Housing)
Northwest Housing Alternatives
Rural Community Assistance Corporation

Central & Eastern Oregon

Columbia Cascade Housing
Community Connection of NE Oregon
Housing Works
NeighborImpact
UGMW Nonprofit Development Corporation

Coastal

Northwest Coastal Housing
Community Action Team, Inc.

Southern Oregon

ACCESS
Housing Authority of Jackson County
NeighborWorks Umpqua

Willamette Valley

Catholic Community Services Foundation
Community Home Builders
Cornerstone Community Housing
Farmworker Housing Development Corporation
Housing and Community Services of Lane County (HACSA)
Integrated Supports for Living, Inc.
NEDCO
Polk CDC
St Vincent de Paul of Lane County
Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services

Portland Metro

Bienestar
BRIDGE Housing
Central City Concern
Community Housing Fund
CPAH
Habitat for Humanity Portland/Metro East
Hacienda CDC
Home Forward
Housing Authority of Clackamas County
Housing Authority of Washington County
Human Solutions, Inc.
Innovative Housing, Inc.
NAYA Family Center
PCRI
Portland Housing Center
Proud Ground
REACH Community Development
ROSE Community Development
Sabin CDC

...Plus over 100 businesses, government agencies, community organizations and individuals across Oregon who support our mission.