

Chair Alissa Keny-Guyer
House Human Services and Housing Committee

By email to: hhs.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

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

My name is Joni Hartmann, and I am executive director of Housing Development Center. Housing Development Center is a nonprofit with 24 years of experience helping organizations develop, preserve and sustain affordable housing that serves low-income people.

I write to urge your support for HB 3357, which will double the document recording fee and provide flexible funds to support 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.

Housing Development Center has developed and preserved more than 5,600 units of affordable housing since 1993. Many of these units were developed using funds provided by the document recording fee. **Funds from the document recording fee fill critical financing gaps, allowing for the development of new affordable housing units that might not otherwise be built.** Recent market changes, which have widened the affordability gap for Oregon's working families and seniors, increase the need for this important resource.

HB 3357 is a priority bill this session for the Housing Alliance and for the Oregon Opportunity Network. As an Oregon ON member, I urge your support, and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joni Hartmann
Executive Director