



Columbia Cascade Housing Corp.

March 22, 2017

Chair Alissa Keny-Guyer
House Human Services and Housing Committee
hhs.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

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

My name is David Peters, the Housing Center Manager for Columbia Cascade Housing Corporation (CCHC) in The Dalles. CCHC has been operating in the Gorge since 1991, serving Hood River, Wasco and Sherman counties in Oregon. Although the Mid-Columbia Housing Resource Center provides information and education to all, the primary focus of CCHC and the Housing Center are low to moderate income people, including the elderly, farmworkers, families and the disabled.

I write to urge your support for HB 3192, which will invest \$5 million in flexible down payment assistance, providing a hand-up for at least 250 first-time home-buying families of moderate means.

CCHC has used downpayment funds in the past. The HOAP Downpayment funds CCHC has received, allowed 15 families to receive \$66,800 in downpayment funds. These funds were leveraged to allow a total of \$2,255,400 in purchase prices of homes in the area. Additional funding is vital to assist future home buyers who may otherwise not be able to purchase a home.

Sincerely,

David Peters
Housing Center Manager

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