
REBUILDING TOGETHER WASHINGTON COUNTY

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March 6, 2017

Chair, Keny Guyer, Vice Chair Sanchez, Vice Chair Olson and Members of the Committee

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to you to ask your support for HB 2961. As the Board President for Rebuilding Together Washington County (RTWC) I have become well acquainted with the growing need for the service that our organization provides to the low income homeowners in Oregon's second largest county. RTWC's mission is to help homeowners without the resources to hire a contractor to keep their homes warm, safe, dry and accessible.

Since 1994 we have helped seniors, veterans, single parent households and people with disabilities stay in their homes and reestablish their pride and independence. For over two decades we have accumulated hundreds of anecdotal stories of homeowners whose lives have been improved by our volunteers and staff, whether it's a ramp to allow a young mother with a debilitating disease to safely get in and out of her home or a simple grab bar that keeps a senior citizen from falling while trying to use a shower stall. Just this last Fall RTWC responded to a crisis created by an out of state owner of a manufactured home park threatening eviction of homeowners who did not make immediate repairs to their homes. RTWC took the initiative to gather volunteers of various skill levels and with separate crews working throughout the site managed to make the repairs that allowed the homeowners to remain in the park.

With a small staff of only 2.5 full time employees and a budget that is challenged by the costs of materials, licensing and fees we have filled an essential function for our community and with your support hope to be able to continue in the years ahead.

Sincerely yours,

Tim Drain

