



HOUSING ALLIANCE

March 28, 2017

Joint Ways and Means Committee on Human Services
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 5012, Housing and Community Services Budget

Co-Chair Steiner Hayward, Co-Chair Rayfield, Members of the Committee:

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Oregon Housing Alliance to express our strong support for protecting and restoring the Fairview Trust. HB 5526 and the Governor's Budget proposes to eliminate the Fairview Trust.

The Oregon Housing Alliance is a coalition of more than eighty organizations from all parts of the state. Our members have come together with the knowledge that housing opportunity is the foundation on which all of our success is built – individual success as students, parents, workers, and community members as well as the success of our communities. We represent a diverse set of voices from including residents, local jurisdictions, non-profit housing developers, and organizations working to meet basic needs in every corner of our state.

We believe that all Oregonians need a safe, stable, and affordable place to call home. Today, we simply don't have enough affordable homes for people who need them. People with intellectual and developmental disabilities struggle just like other Oregonians to find and keep a home they can afford that is safe.

The Fairview Trust is critical to ensuring that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities have safe, stable places to call home that are integrated into our communities. When the Fairview Hospital was sold, the proceeds from the sale were put into a trust, and the Legislature identified that funds should be used going forward to provide housing opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Since inception, the Fairview Trust has provided people with intellectual and developmental disabilities assistance with housing assistance. It has provided funding for affordable homes, moving assistance from restrictive environments, assistance living safely and independently, home modifications, and innovative partnerships.

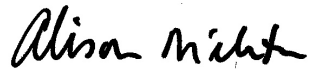
Today, we know we need to continue to invest in housing opportunity for all Oregonians. The Fairview Trust can provide pathways to opportunity and independence for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. In 2015, the Legislature created the Fairview Trust Advisory Group, which is designed to help determine investments in housing and ways to spur innovation. The Advisory Group is poised to recommend key investments in housing that will

help people with intellectual and developmental disabilities with the safety and stability of a home, and the opportunity that a home in a community setting provides.

This investment – in a safe, stable, affordable home for Oregonians with intellectual and development disabilities – will have positive ripple effects across our state. We know what home, and what stable housing, means to all of us. Safe and stable housing in a community setting is key to accessing opportunity.

Thank you very much for your time this morning, and for your service to our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alison McIntosh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alison McIntosh
On Behalf of the Oregon Housing Alliance

Housing Alliance Members

1000 Friends of Oregon
211info
A Community Together (Lane County)
Aging in the Gorge
Benton County Health Department
Benton Habitat for Humanity
Bienestar
Bradley Angle
CASA of Oregon
Central City Concern
Church Women United of Lane County
City of Beaverton
City of Eugene
City of Hillsboro
City of Portland
City of Tigard
Clackamas County
Coalition of Community Health Clinics
Coalition of Housing Advocates
Common Ground OR-WA
Community Action Partnership of Oregon
Community Alliance of Tenants
Community Energy Project
Community Housing Fund
Community Partners for Affordable Housing
Community Vision
Cornerstone Community Housing
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon
Enterprise Community Partners
Evolve Property Management
Fair Housing Council of Oregon
Farmworker Housing Development Corp.
FOOD for Lane County
Habitat for Humanity of Lincoln County
Habitat for Humanity of Oregon
Habitat for Humanity Portland/Metro East
Hacienda CDC
Housing Authority of Clackamas County
Housing Development Center
Human Solutions
Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization
Impact Northwest

JOIN
Lane County Health and Human Services
League of Women Voters of Oregon
Lincoln County
Mainstream Housing Inc.
Metro
Momentum Alliance
NAYA Family Center
Neighborhood Economic Development Corp.
Neighborhood Partnerships
NeighborImpact
NeighborWorks Umpqua
Network for Oregon Affordable Housing
Nightingale Public Advocacy Project
Northwest Housing Alternatives
Northwest Pilot Project
Oregon AFSCME Council 75
Oregon Center for Public Policy
Oregon Coalition on Housing & Homelessness
Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities
Oregon Food Bank
Oregon Housing Authorities
Oregon Law Center
Oregon Opportunity Network
Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon
Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives
Portland Tenants United
Proud Ground
Raphael House
REACH CDC
St. Vincent de Paul of Lane County, Inc.
ShelterCare
Sisters Habitat for Humanity
Sponsors, Inc.
SquareOne Villages
Street Roots
Transition Projects
Urban League of Portland
Washington County
Welcome Home Coalition
Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services