



April 26, 2017

Chair Barnhart, Vice-Chair Bentz, Vice-Chair Smith Warner and Members of the Housing Revenue Committee

By email to: hhs.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

Dear Chair Bentz and members of the Housing Revenue Committee:

My name is Peg Malloy and I am the Executive Director of the Portland Housing Center. The Portland Housing Center provides counseling, education, and financial services to first time homebuyers in Multnomah, Washington, and Clackamas Counties with offices in Portland and Beaverton.

I write 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.

At my agency funding from the document recording fee helps us provide counseling and education for low to moderate income households to achieve smart, sustainable homeownership. Last year our organization served approximately 1,600 households with counseling and education, of which 395 achieved homeownership. Funds from the document recording fee also support our down payment assistance program, bringing homeownership within reach for low to moderate income homebuyers. Additional funding would allow us to serve more households with down payment assistance, education, and counseling.

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,

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

Peg Malloy
Executive Director
Portland Housing Center

ML-4654 NMLS# 268117
www.portlandhousingcenter.org