



April 26, 2017

To: Chair Barnhart, Vice-Chair Bentz, Vice-Chair Smith Warner and Members of the Committee
House Revenue Committee

Dear Chair Barnhart and committee members,

My name is Amanda Saul and I am a Senior Program Director at the Portland office of Enterprise Community Partners, a national organization working to create and advocate for affordable homes in thriving communities linked to good schools, jobs, transit and health care.

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.

As you know, in the Portland metro region alone we have a shortage of 63,000 affordable homes. We know that having a stable place to live increases the likelihood that our neighbors will be healthier, have access to good jobs and education and be able to fully participate to our community – that's the Portland I want to live in.

As a national investor in affordable housing we couple public and private funds to ensure that rents are affordable to all income levels. By increasing the document recording fee we will be able to leverage more existing resources and building more affordable homes faster.

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 blue ink that reads "Amanda Saul".

Amanda Saul, Senior Program Director
Enterprise Community Partners