



The friendliest store in town.

February 3, 2018

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer, Vice-Chair Olson, Vice-Chair Sanchez, and Members of the Committee on Human Services and Housing,

I'm writing to you today in support of House Bill 4007.

At New Seasons Market, we believe all of our employees, customers and neighbors need and deserve a safe, stable and affordable place to call home. But as housing costs continue to rise, thousands of Oregon families are struggling to find a home they can afford. This housing crisis is harming families, our regional economy, and the fabric of our communities.

Since 2009, the document recording fee has been the state's only revenue generating mechanism with funds dedicated to addressing the housing crisis from multiple angles to prevent and end homelessness, build and preserve affordable housing and create opportunities for Oregonians to purchase their first home.

A modest increase to the document recording fee would have a substantial impact on solving our housing crisis and stabilizing the communities throughout the state where we do business. Expanding the document recording fee from \$20 to \$75 would raise an additional \$82.5 million per biennium, allowing us to do even more to address our state's urgent housing crisis.

We strongly support this modest increase in the document recording fee as an efficient way to generate much-needed resources for housing programs statewide. Our communities—and our economy—are stronger when everyone has a safe, stable home they can afford.

Sincerely,

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

Sarah Joannides
Director of Social Responsibility
New Seasons Market