

February 5, 2018

House Committee on Human Services and Housing
900 Court St. NE, H272
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer, Vice Chair Olsen, Vice Chair Sanchez, and committee members,

This letter articulates 211info's support for HB 4007 that seeks to increase the existing \$35 recording fee on real estate transactions to \$75, generating an additional \$112.5 million a year for affordable housing. Our state is experiencing a housing crisis, especially related to affordable and workforce housing. This bill provides a sustainable, dedicated funding stream to improve affordable housing availability across the state.

211info connects Oregonians with the services they need. Between July 2016 and June 2017, 211info fielded 245,439 inquiries across our phone, text, email and mobile app platforms. Of these contacts, 33% were related to housing; and 76% of respondents identified having income under 100% of the federal poverty level, and 40% reported being currently homeless.

211info is proud to support legislation that serves Oregon families, especially in such a critical area. Safe, healthy, affordable housing is a key social determinant of health. The social determinants of health are those conditions where people live, work, learn and play. When we work to improve these core functions, we will realize the benefits through improved health, lower health costs, better educational performance and other key indicators of thriving communities.

We urge the House Committee on Health and Housing and both chambers of the Legislature to support the bill.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation. 211info stands ready to provide any additional information or data that helps facilitate this process.

Respectfully,



Dan Herman
CEO
211info