



HOUSING  
OREGON

February 7, 2018

House Committee on Human Services and Housing  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer, Vice-Chair Olson, Vice-Chair Sanchez, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing today to express our strong support for **HB 4007** which would increase the Document Recording Fee from \$20 to \$75. The resources that will be generated by this increase are critically needed to address the housing crisis across Oregon. The funds will address the immediate needs of families experiencing homelessness, it will provide much needed capital to build and preserve affordable rental housing, and it will support homeowners with foreclosure counseling and homebuyers with down payment assistance.

Housing Oregon is a statewide association of 75 organizations who work to build, finance and support affordable housing. Our members include non-profits, housing authorities and community action agencies who are on the front lines of addressing homelessness, providing affordable rental housing and creating opportunities for homeownership. Every day we see the desperate needs in every corner of the State. And, every day, we know that we could do more if there were more resources. The significant increase in the Document Recording Fee can be put to work immediately and can create a meaningful difference in the lives of thousands of Oregonians.

The Document Recording Fee is the only ongoing, dedicated State revenue source for affordable housing. With the current crisis in housing, now is the time to make a new level of commitment to the Document Recording Fee. The proposed increase to \$75 will generate over \$50 million per year. These funds can support senior housing in Ontario, veterans housing in Coos Bay, permanent supportive housing for people in recovery from mental illness in Portland, and family housing in Prineville. It can prevent a family from becoming homeless or help a family to buy their first home.

We urge you to support HB 4007.

Regards,

Jerome Brooks  
Executive Director

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[HousingOregon.org](http://HousingOregon.org)

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