



February 20, 2018

To: Chair Barnhart and Members of the House Revenue Committee

From: Peter Hainley, Executive Director of CASA of Oregon

RE: HB 4007

CASA of Oregon is a nonprofit community development organization that works throughout rural Oregon to support thriving communities. We work with local nonprofits, housing authorities, governments and communities to ensure the housing needs of farmworkers, seniors, the disabled and other under-served population are met.

Much of our work is in the construction and rehabilitation of multi- and single family affordable housing. We also work with residents in manufactured home communities (aka mobile home parks) to help them form cooperatives so that they may purchase their communities. To date, we have converted 13 communities to resident ownership. Most of these conversions have been assisted, in part, with funds generated by the document recording fee.

The document recording fee provides dedicated revenue that can be used across the spectrum of housing needs: to help prevent and end homelessness, to conserve and build additional affordable homes, and to help more Oregonians access homeownership. With the increased fee, we would likely be able to convert 3-4 manufactured home communities (up from 1 or 2) to resident ownership.

CASA of Oregon supports this significant increase in the document recording fee since the housing crises necessitate bold legislative action. Without this increase, the ability of all Oregonians to have a safe, decent and affordable place to call home will never be realized.

Please vote for HB 4007 to ensure more Oregonians have access to housing.