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February 12, 2019

Co-Chairs Sen. Taylor and Rep. Reardon
Members of the Joint Committee on Ways & Means, Natural Resources Subcommittee
State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 5027

Dear Co-Chairs Taylor and Reardon and Committee Members:

1000 Friends of Oregon is a nonprofit, membership organization that has worked with Oregonians for more than 40 years to support livable urban and rural communities; protect family farms, forests and natural areas; and provide transportation and housing choice. We support the funding requested for DLCD in the Governor's budget in HB 5027, and the Department's Policy Option Package 101, which would fund its proposed Development Readiness Program.

We have worked closely with the Department of Land Conservation and Development for the over 40 years it has been in existence. At under 60 FTE, it is a small agency with a large mission, and we appreciate the efficiency and commitment with which they get it done.

We are very supportive of POP 101, which would allocate \$1.35 million to support local government housing and economic development planning. In 2018, the Legislature provided funding to start this program. We have watched as DLCD efficiently got those funds out the door to over 50 cities across the state, to provide the technical assistance needed for Housing Needs Analyses (HNAs) and Housing Audits. These are crucial elements to make long-term changes in how and where these cities accommodate needed housing. When completed, turning the results of those HNAs and audits into actual land use plan and code changes will result in more housing opportunities for more Oregonians. POP 101 allows this work to continue, for both housing and economic development planning, by filling technical gaps in local government planning capacity through direct services.

We urge you to support the DLCD budget, and its POP 101. Thank you for consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Kyle McCurdy".

Mary Kyle McCurdy
Deputy Director