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Honorable Co-Chairs,

For the record, my name is Phil Donovan and I am appearing on behalf of Harbor of Hope.

Harbor of Hope is a non-profit working to bring innovative solutions to homelessness. Our highest profile project to date is bringing private and public resources to create a “homeless navigation center” in NW Portland. Harbor of Hope supports the Oregon Housing & Community Services budget and Policy Option Package 104 in particular.

We need to build more affordable housing, but Oregon can’t build all the units we need. We need additional strategies. One innovative idea is home-sharing.

The idea is to utilize the tens of thousands of under-utilized homes in Oregon, where the owner has extra space and needs the extra income provided by a long-term renter who cannot otherwise afford housing. Think people confronted by rising property taxes paired with retiring boomers on fixed income.

Our vision to organize a state-wide Home Share program working in collaboration with NW Pilot Project, Impact Northwest, OneAppOregon, Catholic Charities, Silvernest, Inc., Ecumenical Council of Oregon and local governments.

POP 104 would dedicate \$20 million to finding innovative solutions to the housing shortage. We think Home Share is one innovative idea that could utilize some of those finds to make better use of technology and existing non-profits to create new affordable housing opportunities without pounding a single nail.

For more information, please contact Phil Donovan (503.522.3023) or Ryan Fisher (503.807.7525)
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