



April 23, 2019

The Honorable Representative Paul Holvey, Chair
The Honorable Representative Jennifer Williamson, Vice-Chair
The Honorable Representative Carl Wilson, Vice-Chair

House Committee on Rules

RE: Support for HB 2006: Rental Market Resources

Dear Chair and Vice chairs Holvey, Williamson, Wilson, and Members of the Committee:

I'm writing in support of the Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) requested budget, HB 2006, which includes \$20 million for Rental Market Resources. This package would provide tenant and landlord resources to build on successful strategies that help navigate tight, dynamic rental markets. Specifically, the package includes resources to expand fair housing training across the state and education on landlord/tenant law, supported by a lawyer.

The Oregon Rental Housing Association consists of 14 chapters with over 5,000 members located throughout the entire state. From La Grande to Coos-bay and Klamath Falls to Portland, we truly represent all of Oregon. All our chapters are dedicated to the same core principles: training and educating property owners about changes in laws and providing educational opportunities to help do their jobs better.

In my experience as a landlord and legislative director of the Oregon Rental Housing Association, I know first-hand that access to education and training creates better landlords who are better able to serve their tenants. Communities across the state are feeling the pressures of Oregon's housing shortage, and I appreciate Governor Brown and the Department's support to ensure that Oregon's renters and property owners have the education and training needed to navigate today's rental market.

Thank you for your consideration. I urge your support for HB 2006 and \$20 million for Rental Market Resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Straub", is written over a large, stylized blue ink flourish that extends across the page.

Jim Straub
Legislative Director
Oregon Rental Housing Association