

April 19, 2019

Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction
Oregon 2019 Legislative Session

Subject: AOC Testimony on HB 5030

Dear Co-Chairs Girod, Holvey and Members of the Subcommittee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 5030. AOC strongly **supports \$25 million of Lottery bonds authorization for housing preservation initiatives in the 2019-21 budget.**

Housing issues are one of AOC's top legislative priorities for the 2019-21 Session. During recent AOC strategic planning sessions it has become clear that our State's housing crisis exists in nearly every city and county in Oregon:

- Oregon's housing needs (current deficit of 155,000 units) plagues our urban, rural and frontier counties/cities.
- The housing crisis impacts multiple populations and levels of income --- seniors, very low/low income affordable housing, veterans, workforce housing, working single parent families, individuals suffering from mental illness and/or addictions, children's homelessness, domestic violence, as well as for people involved with our criminal justice system.
- AOC believes that the Governor's \$406.1 million housing budget can and must reach equitably across the entire state.

AOC supports \$25 million in Lottery-backed bond proceeds to preserve up to 400 units of existing affordable housing. This includes providing assistance for housing developments with federal rent subsidies, manufactured home parks, and housing with expiring rent and income restrictions.

Oregon has the opportunity to help our preserve our existing units of affordable housing and to keep these homes safe and available for the next generation. Just like schools or hospitals, affordable rental units need regular investments to ensure they stay safe for people to live in. These investments are needed to replace the roof, make repairs to the exterior of the buildings, or to ensure their safety and habitability.

Sincerely,



Andy Smith
Policy Manager, Association of Oregon Counties