

From: [Jackie Keogh](#)
To: [LRO](#)
Subject: Proud Ground's Testimony on SB 2164 for 6-14-2019
Date: Monday, June 10, 2019 10:42:24 AM

Dear Chair Nathanson and Chair Hass, and members of the Joint Committee on Tax Expenditures, Proud Ground is a non-profit that provides affordable homeownership opportunities to first-time homebuyers to lower-income households throughout the Portland region. We are asking you to take action to ensure that Individual Development Accounts remain available to Oregonians who need them. Please include the provisions of SB 790 in HB 2164.

Individual Development Accounts are a valuable tool to give Oregonians with low incomes the boost they need to build a more secure financial future. Proud Ground provides IDA's to our low- and moderate-income homeowners to ensure they can maintain their permanently affordable home.

We need the Legislature to take action to keep the Oregon IDA Initiative working in our communities, and we need to expand the reach of IDAs to more people. Last year, Proud Ground enrolled 13 homebuyers in our IDA program. However, due to interest of the IDA and limited funding, Proud Ground created a wait list of interested homebuyers for future IDA funding. An investment in IDA's is an investment to increase the stability of these first-time homebuyers in Oregon.

Thank you for all of your hard work this session, and thank you for your attention to keeping IDAs available. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jackie G. Keogh
(she/her/hers)

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