

**From:** [Leigh Scheffey](#)  
**To:** [LRO](#)  
**Cc:** [Rep Nathanson](#); [Sen Hass](#)  
**Subject:** Mercy Corps Northwest, Leigh Scheffey, Testimony on SB 2164 for 6-14-2019  
**Date:** Monday, June 10, 2019 2:37:24 PM

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Dear Chair Nathanson and Chair Hass, and members of the Joint Committee on Tax Expenditures,

I am 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. Just last year, Mercy Corps Northwest IDA programming created 126 new businesses for low-income households in Oregon.

We need the Legislature to take action to keep the Oregon IDA Initiative working in our communities, and expand the reach of IDAs to more people. As a resident of the community, this initiative is crucial to the wellbeing and success of my neighbors, family and friends. Thank you for all of your hard work this session, and thank you for your attention to keeping IDAs available.

Best,  
Leigh Scheffey  
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