

From: [Susy McBride](#)
To: [LRO](#); [Rep Barreto](#); [Sen Hansell](#)
Cc: [Rep Nathanson](#); [Sen Hass](#); [Margaret Davidson](#); [Debbie MacBaker](#)
Subject: Community Connection of Northeast Oregon, Inc. Testimony on SB 2164 for 6-14-2019
Date: Monday, June 10, 2019 4:29:45 PM

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. The financial coaching and asset education that accompanies the IDA Programs is empowering low to moderate income Oregonians! Here is a quote from a recent HO IDA graduate, "Successfully completing this program feels like earning a graduate degree in "adulting. When I entered the program nearly four years ago, I had a loose grasp on my personal finances, had only haphazardly worked toward financial goals, and knew next to nothing about the complicated home buying process. I am incredibly grateful for the matching funds that are enabling me to realize my dream of buying a home. But for me, the financial education has been even more valuable. I've established healthy financial habits (three cheers for obsessive budgeting and emergency savings!) that will last an entire lifetime. I have confidence now that I can make financial goals, and meet them. That confidence and stability is truly priceless to me. "

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. There is such a great need in our 4 counties we have a perpetual waiting list. Expanding this program would be a huge shot in the arm to Oregonians in need.

Thank you for all of your hard work this session, and thank you for your attention to keeping IDAs available.

Best regards,
Susy

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