

From: [Emily Schelling](#)
To: [JWMCC Exhibits](#)
Subject: Support for HB 5201
Date: Friday, February 14, 2020 2:43:53 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction
Attention: Co-Chair Girod, Co-Chair Holvey, and Members of the Committee

I work for the Housing Development Center, a nonprofit affordable housing consulting group serving Oregon for over 25 years. During that time, we have come to strongly believe that affordable housing is essential infrastructure that keeps communities strong and families together. To that end, I am writing in support of HB 5201, and the Speakers request for \$50 million in General Obligation, Article XI-Q bonds to build affordable homes across Oregon and \$20 million for Lottery Bonds to maintain existing affordable homes.

Housing Development Center helps organizations develop and preserve affordable housing and community facilities that serve low-income people. Our clients are housing authorities and nonprofit housing provider organizations across Oregon. The housing providers we work with ensure that Oregon's seniors, working families, veterans, and people living with disabilities can rely on a safe and stable home. The homes are located throughout the state, from Gold Beach to Hermiston, and Astoria to Burns. On behalf of our clients, we currently have dozens of projects in our development pipeline. We have the capacity to use every dollar in HB 5201. With the resources, these future homes could serve generations of families.

Across Oregon, non-profit organizations and public housing authorities are ready to build safe, stable, and affordable homes for rent and for purchase. With additional resources, we can support more of this work and build projects across Oregon. We request your support of \$50 million to develop new affordable homes. Similarly, I request your support of \$20 million to preserve existing valuable homes. The organizations that provide affordable rental homes know how to steward them for future generations; they just need reliable funding to do so.

Of all the things people need to thrive, the most critical is a safe, stable and affordable place to call home. Please support our efforts to protect these homes for future Oregonians, because everyone deserves to have a safe and stable place to live. Thank you so much for your service to Oregonians.

Yours sincerely,
Emily Schelling

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