

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 25: Housing and Community Services Department Housing Stability Counseling

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative Gomberg

The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application from the Housing and Community Services Department to NeighborWorks America; and include additional Federal Funds expenditure limitation of \$1,681,331 for the Housing and Community Services Department in a budget reconciliation bill during the 2022 legislative session, to provide housing counseling services.

The grant supports administrative expenses, program related services including outreach and training, and foreclosure avoidance and financial education services by twelve HUD-Certified homeownership centers to households facing housing or income instability in 29 counties designated as Targeted Geographic Areas by the funder, NeighborWorks America. Residents in counties not served by the subgrantee service area -- which covers 35 of Oregon's 36 counties -- can still receive housing counseling and financial education services from their local housing counseling agency, but in that instance, services will be supported by a different source of revenue.

No matching funds are required, and the Department will not need additional position authority to administer funding.

The Subcommittee recommends approval.