

Center for Dispute Resolution and Restorative Justice

My name is Brian Graunke. I am the Director of Mediation for Resolve Center for Dispute Resolution and Restorative Justice of southern Oregon. Our center provides several forms of housing stability mediation, including the Oregon Foreclosure Avoidance Program, Mediation for Manufactured Dwelling communities Though Oregon Community Housing, and day of court (FED) eviction mediation in partnership with Jackson County Circuit Court.

I am writing to ask the Joint Ways and Means committee to direct 2.5 million dollars from LC6 Sec4c to the Office of Community Dispute Resolutions housed at the University of Oregon Law School for Eviction Prevention mediation through Oregon's 15 community mediation centers as part of a long-term housing solution. Rather than adding another legislative mandate burden to Oregon Housing Community.

Mediation is one of the critical strategies in national best practices when designing eviction prevention systems. Mediation brings housing providers and tenants together through a structured, safe and confidential process to find solutions that work for all involved without needing to win or lose their cases.

Please support this crucial component by directing 2.5 million of the funds to OOCDR to support the expansion of eviction prevention mediation through the 15-community based CDRs for the people of Oregon.

Thank you for your leadership.

Brian Graunke Director of Mediation Service

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