



March 24, 2021

RE: Support for HB 3335

Dear Chair Fahey, Vice-Chair Campos, Vice-Chair Morgan and Members of the Committee:

My name is Shannon Vilhauer, and I am the Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Oregon. I am writing to share our organization's support for HB 3335, which creates the "ADU Community Pilot Programs" affordable small home (ADU) demonstration project.

Habitat for Humanity of Oregon supports HB 3335, because we see this model as an adaptable and replicable tool to create more housing opportunities in Oregon communities. For example, Bend-Redmond Habitat for Humanity has plans underway to build ADU's in Deschutes County to increase the supply of local, affordable homes.

The ADU Community Pilot Programs project will create cost-efficient, new affordable rental homes and stabilize modest income homeowners in communities across the state. The Pilot Program will provide grants to nonprofit organizations working with homeowners and other community organizations to develop accessory dwelling units for lease to eligible tenants.

The program has the additional benefit of providing stability and asset building for modest-income homeowners, who may be older adults or persons of color, helping them retain their home and receive a modest monthly income.

Learning from the ADU Community Pilot Program will be shared with Oregon Housing and Community Services, and with community organizations statewide, so that this new tool can be replicated to address local affordable housing needs across the state.

HB 3335 is a smart investment in an innovative approach to increase the supply of affordable housing and improve homeowner stability. We encourage your support for HB 3335.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shannon M. Vilhauer".

Shannon M. Vilhauer, Executive Director

Habitat for Humanity of Oregon

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