

March 25, 2021

Public Testimony Oregon House Committee on Revenue

Support for HB 2584 to increase the OAHTC

Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chair Pham, and Members of the Committee

My name is Trell Anderson, and I am the Executive Director of Northwest Housing Alternatives. As a nonprofit, mission and community-based organization, we offer nearly 2,000 affordable rental homes across 16 counties in Oregon to seniors, families, Veterans, and people with disabilities.

We have over 800 additional affordable rental homes in development in communities such as Tigard, Portland, Florence, and Ontario.

We have direct experience using the Oregon Affordable Housing Tax Credit (OAHTCs) to build new affordable housing properties, and strongly support this proposal to expand the cap. OAHTCs are a powerful financial tool as a component in the capital stack of affordable housing properties, especially with projects in rural communities.

The properties we have and will build with OAHTCs serve families, seniors, Veterans, and people with disabilities. With such a dramatic gap in affordable housing options for people across the state, we need every tool available and accessible to build new projects.

I am supportive of HB 2584 and ask for your support as well. Please do not miss this opportunity to make a difference in the development and delivery of affordable homes across the state.

Sincerely,

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