



March 29, 2021

To: Joint Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

Re: Support for HB 5011, Oregon Housing and Community Services Funding

Dear Co-Chair Beyer, Co-Chair Gomberg, and Committee Members:

Thank you for accepting this testimony on behalf of the Housing Authority of Washington County and our city partner jurisdictions in support of the Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) budget bill, HB 5011. Collectively, we as local governments proactively engage in efforts to prevent and end homelessness in our communities; build, acquire, and rehabilitate thriving affordable housing communities; provide technical assistance for third-party affordable housing development; and serve folks through our Housing Choice Voucher program.

We write in strong support of funding OHCS programs so that we can work collaboratively in our communities and statewide to ensure housing stability and opportunity for all Oregonians. We urge you to give particular consideration to full funding of the following budget items:

- Permanent Supportive Housing: \$50 million plus rental assistance and services dollars.
- Emergency Housing Assistance and State Housing Assistance Program: \$50 million.
- Local Innovation and Fast Track: \$250 million.
- Preservation of existing affordable housing: \$100 million.

Our jurisdictions are committed to improving the housing opportunities, wraparound services, and quality of life for the people we serve. Thank you for sharing these values and funding our critical housing and homelessness safety net programs.