



ROSE
community development

April 9, 2021

Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction

Co-Chair Girod, Co-Chair Holvey, and Members of the Committee,

I write to you today on behalf of ROSE Community Development, in support of SB 5505, and the inclusion of \$250 million for affordable housing and \$50 million for permanent supportive housing in Article XI-Q General Obligation bonds.

ROSE connects our community to build good homes, healthy families and neighborhood opportunities in outer southeast Portland. Our housing helps provide affordable housing in neighborhoods that have been historically underserved but are rapidly gentrifying. In 2019, we opened over 100 units of new housing.

Prior to the COVID pandemic, Oregon was already experiencing a housing crisis, and too many of our neighbors and community members were experiencing housing instability. In the 2019-20 school year, over 21,000 kids experienced homelessness at some point during the year, with their families. Due to COVID and the early closure of schools, we know this is likely an undercount.

Having an affordable, safe, and stable home is an essential foundation for healthy, positive outcomes for the individuals and families in our community. Continuing to invest in housing at the state level is a crucial part of addressing the housing crisis in Oregon.

We urge your support for the inclusion of \$250 million for affordable housing and \$50 million for permanent supportive housing in Article XI-Q General Obligation bonds in SB 5505.

Thank you for your time and for your service to the State of Oregon.

Sincerely,

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