

Honorable Senator Johnson and Members of the Committee,

I am David Brandt the Executive Director of Housing Works, the regional housing authority for the Central Oregon (Deschutes, Crook and Jefferson Counties). I am testifying in support of four important affordable housing projects proposed for funding under SB 5555. Three of the projects have been submitted by Rep. Kropf (House District 54) and one by Senator Findley (Senate District 30). All three projects respond to the dramatic increase to the existing homelessness and housing crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The project in Senate District 30 is a 36 unit multifamily development which is the final phase of the Madras medical campus at St. Charles Hospital. Half the units will be set aside for domestic violence survivors the remainder will be available to extremely low income families with a preference for families reuniting from foster care. Two of the three projects in House District 54 will provide premenant supportive housing for the hardest to house homeless. Each of the two permanent supportive housing projects includes 35 units. One of the projects includes a ground floor clinic to be occupied by Mosaic Medical, the non-profit Community Health Center serving Central Oregon. The final request is for gap funding to support a major rehabilitation of Housing Works' largest affordable housing community in the region. Ariel South is nearly 50 years old and requires \$50,000 repairs per unit. Housing Works has secured funding for 70% of the project costs.