

- We urge you to support SB5534 and the Housing Alliance request for \$100 million in lottery bonds to preserve naturally occurring affordable housing
- Instead of making funds available for loans, we request that you make them available as grants for affordable housing
- I live in the Patrician MHP, and our park of 80 homes is up for sale at a cost of \$12 million
- Instead of being subject to the whims of large mobile home park investors, who routinely buy and sell our parks, raising rents while doing little to improve infrastructure or improve the lives of residents, we're working with CASA of Oregon to buy our park.
- This would make our park a cooperative. Residents will jointly own the land underneath our homes. We'll also vote for and serve on the governing board, effectively putting the control of our park into our own hands.
- We'd own our park and could reside here for the rest of our lives if we wanted to.
- In our case, our land is zoned commercial multi-use, which means a developer could buy our park and force us to move so they could build a hotel or shopping complex. This is an even worse potential outcome for our residents.
- Given the budgetary issues the State has faced with wildfires and the pandemic, there are no grants available to us, and we're having trouble finding the loans necessary to buy our park.
- This means that, if we receive the \$12M plus in loans that we need, we'd have to raise our \$700 lot rents by \$150 monthly. This payment would be on top of the mortgages we pay for our homes.
- Many of us are on fixed incomes, and others are working jobs during our retirement years to make ends meet. This rent increase would be unaffordable for many of our residents, and some of us would be rendered homeless.
- A grant to our co-op via SB5534 would help ensure that our naturally-occurring affordable housing would be permanently affordable for us, and keep us in our homes and our community.
- Thank you for your consideration