



Marion County
OREGON

Board of Commissioners

March 1, 2021

(503) 588-5212 Representative Julie Fahey, Chair
(503) 588-5237-FAX Representative Wlnsvey Campos, Vice Chair
Representative Lily Morgan, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Housing

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RE: Marion County Opposes HB 2100

Dear Chair Fahey and Members of the Committee:

Kevin Cameron, Chair
Danielle Bethell
Colm Willis

Marion County opposes HB 2100, which would disinvest in our local solutions for existing emergency housing needs and homeless services.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

HB 2100 is Oregon Housing and Community Services' effort to modernize Oregon's homeless response system. This modernization includes moving funding for homeless services towards an outcomes-based system, allows for intentional initiatives to address homelessness, and changes the way funding is allocated for homeless services.

Jan Fritz

Oregon's current delivery system utilizes a needs-based formula to allocate resources directly to Community Action Agencies around the state. The Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency (MWVCAA) receives \$2,391,915 to provide critical services and coordination of services to persons experiencing poverty, housing instability, and homelessness in Marion County. MWVCAA's ability to build a network and coordinate services across organizations has been an integral strategy to our region's approach to addressing homelessness and housing instability. The proposed modernization would continue the needs-based approach and maintain regional allocations but restrict MWVCAA's guaranteed allotment to 80%; the remaining 20% of funds would be made available on a competitive basis to all providers statewide with no guarantee of funds being directed to needs in our county.

Marion County supports the services MWVCAA provides and seeks to preserve existing housing and homeless services, local control, and long-term infrastructure planning for our community needs.

Now is the time to invest in our local housing and homeless services, not decrease funding and capacity. We ask that you please oppose HB 2100.

Sincerely,



Kevin Cameron, Chair



Danielle Bethell, Vice Chair



Colm Willis, Commissioner

Cc: Marion County Legislative Delegation