



**Letter of Support for House Bill 2009
House Committee on Business and Labor**

February 24, 2021

Dear Chair Holvey, Vice-Chair Bonham, Vice-Chair Grayber, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Bayo Ware. I am the Manufactured Home Placement and Replacement Manager at Community and Shelter Assistance of Oregon. Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments regarding House Bill 2009.

CASA's mission is deeply rooted in service to farmworkers and other low-income populations throughout Oregon, especially in rural areas. We seek to improve the lives of Oregonians by building affordable housing, neighborhood facilities, and programs that increase families' financial well-being. We are a nonprofit community development organization that strives to support thriving communities by working with local nonprofits, housing authorities, and local government.

Please deeply consider passing HB 2009 to extend the foreclosure moratorium for homeowners who have a demonstrated financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As you know, even before the pandemic and wildfires, Oregon was in the midst of a statewide housing crisis. Deciding against helping these homeowners would simply exacerbate this crisis. Homeownership is the most widely used method of obtaining financial security. Without assistance, Oregonians would lose that security. Additionally, the problems don't go away; instead, they change, as these same individuals would need other forms of assistance associated with houselessness.

I believe it is the duty of the government to help those who are unable to help themselves. Please do so by acting urgently to extend the foreclosure moratorium.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bayoán Ware

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