



Habitat for Humanity[®]

of Lincoln County

March 1, 2023

Senate Human Services Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

Dear Committee Members::

RE: SB 606 - Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act

Habitat for Humanity of Lincoln County asks you to pass SB 606, the Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act. Your support is critical to the health of the nonprofit sector and the communities they serve.

Building homes, communities, and hope, Habitat for Humanity of Lincoln County (HFHLC) is a non-profit organization that builds homes and provides critical home repairs for low income families. We provide opportunities for volunteers to contribute to the well-being of our community and coordinate donated or discounted supplies and services to make homes and repairs affordable. We are also actively engaged in disaster recovery efforts. HFHLC's ReStores offer low-cost building materials, used furniture and appliances, providing much needed program revenue, and diverts usable and recyclable materials from our local landfill.


Our small organization is often unable to access State programs due to the complexity of the application process and time-consuming reporting requirements. We don't always have the financial resources to pay for programs up front and wait for reimbursement.

The Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act would allow us to focus our time and energy on increasing affordable housing production and preserving existing affordable housing through home repairs for low-income homeowners rather than completing complex application, reporting, and reimbursement requirements. Requiring a de minimis administrative rate of 10 percent or higher would help us afford staff to help meet these requirements. Eliminating reimbursement as a form of payment for state grants would ensure we don't have to put programs on hold due to lack of cashflow while waiting for reimbursement. Creating a Nonprofit Workforce Retention Fund to provide grants nonprofits would help maintain consistent staffing and lower employee turnover. All Oregon nonprofits would benefit from the recommendations of a state task force to reform nonprofit contracting in order to streamline and simplify the process, raise wages, and create an ecosystem of administrative policies, statutes and funding levels that lead to sustainable government/nonprofit partnerships.

Habitat for Humanity of Lincoln County appreciates your consideration of SB 606. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


Lucinda Taylor
Executive Director