



March 2, 2023

Senator Aaron Woods and Representative David Gomberg, Co-Chairs
Joint Committee On Ways and Means, Subcommittee On Transportation and Economic Development
900 Court St NE, Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for Senate Bill 5511

Dear Co-Chairs Woods and Gomberg and Members of the Committee:

The Oregon Housing Alliance enthusiastically supports Senate Bill 5511. Our coalition of some 100 members includes local jurisdictions, housing authorities, grassroots groups, tenant advocates, and housing developers and providers from across the state. From these various positions within Oregon's affordable housing landscape, our members have overwhelmingly voted to endorse Governor Kotek's Recommended Budget for the Oregon Housing and Community Services Department.

SB 5511 responds to the statewide housing and homelessness crisis with historic investments across the housing spectrum. Among these investments, Housing Alliance members have prioritized several areas for bold funding in the state budget. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues over the coming months to secure ambitious funding for these priorities, which include:

- **Homeownership:** Development of new homes for first-time buyers; individual development accounts (IDAs) and down payment assistance; and permanently affordable homeownership through community land trusts and limited-equity cooperatives
- **Rent assistance:** Emergency assistance to prevent evictions and rehouse people who lose their homes, and long-term rent assistance to secure stable housing for low-income households
- **Shelters and services** for Oregonians experiencing homelessness
- **Preservation** of existing affordable housing
- **Rental housing:** New affordable rental homes, including permanent supportive housing (PSH)
- **Land acquisition** to proactively secure a pipeline for affordable housing development
- **Capacity building for community-based organizations**
- **Direct funding for Oregon's nine sovereign tribal nations**

We urge you to join the Oregon Housing Alliance in supporting the adoption of SB 5511, while working to maximize funding in these priority areas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cameron Herrington".

Cameron Herrington
Director of Policy and Advocacy
cherrington@neighborhoodpartnerships.org