



March 8, 2023

Representative Maxine Dexter
Chair, House Committee on Housing and Homelessness
900 Court St NE, H-283
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for House Bill 2761

Dear Chair Dexter and Members of the Committee:

Impact NW calls on you to support House Bill 2761, which creates greater flexibility for Oregon Housing and Community Services to fund affordable homes within mixed-income developments.

Impact NW is the largest, most comprehensive organization in the region dedicated to preventing homelessness. We have been in the community for nearly 60 years working on our community's most pressing needs. We work with 22,000 people a year in the Portland-Vancouver area with stabilizing and strengthening services to keep people housed. Our staff are on the frontlines of the housing and homelessness crisis, and pandemic recovery to help people access services such as housing, rental and energy assistance, other basic needs, and upstream supports so they can thrive. Impact NW supports this bill as it will address our housing inventory shortfall and provide a broad spectrum of housing needs.

HB 2761 will allow developers across the state to include regulated affordable units in a wider range of developments, including projects that may have been exclusively market-rate under the restrictions of current state statute. Greater flexibility to access affordable housing funds will enable developers to respond to local market conditions, community priorities, and the availability of other funding.

HB 2761 also supports equitable housing goals by facilitating the integration of regulated and market-rate homes in high-opportunity locations, leveraging the revenue from market-rate units to help make affordable units possible.

We call on you to join us in supporting this simple yet important measure.

Sincerely,

Andy Nelson
Executive Director, Impact NW