

Rental Housing Alliance Oregon

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TO: House Committee on Housing and Homelessness

FROM: Ron Garcia, Executive Director, Public Policy

DATE: March 28, 2023

RE: HB 3417 support

Since 1927 the Rental Housing Alliance Oregon has set the standard for community participation by landlords who provide affordable and quality housing while also improving the CRAFT of our members: Community - Resources - Advocacy - Forms - Training. The RHA has over 2,000 members, 62% of whom own just 1-4 units and 81% of whom own 10 or fewer units.

RHA Oregon supports the Governor's objective with HB 3417 which is to keep landlords as partners by helping compensate them for losses incurred when working with state assistance programs.

HB 3417 recognizes the ongoing partnership that Oregon landlords have had with the Housing and Community Services Department and the risks landlords continually absorb in order to keep tenants housed. Supporting those efforts by increased and continued access to compensation for tenant caused damages and for non-payment of rent is an important step that will go a long way in ensuring that more Oregonians are housed.

The ability to apply for funds established via HB 5019 is fair and assures more participants who must be part of the housing crisis solution feel valued and will continue in rehousing programs.

Thank you for your consideration and for your public service.