



February 23, 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 2001

Dear Chair Dexter and Members of the Committee:

The Oregon Housing Alliance urges your support of House Bill 2001, which addresses our state's urgent housing needs and long-term housing supply challenges with immediate action on several fronts.

Our coalition of some 100 members includes local jurisdictions, grassroots community groups, and housing developers and providers from across the state. From their various positions within Oregon's affordable housing landscape, our members endorsed HB 2456, HB 2889 and SB 799. We are grateful that all three bills have been incorporated into HB 2001, along with other worthy measures that will boost housing production statewide.

HB 2001, incorporating the amendments being considered by your committee on February 23, includes important elements of the response to our statewide housing crisis. The bill will:

- Provide common-sense improvements to Oregon's eviction statutes to promote stability and payment rather than eviction and displacement.
- Expand investments in youth homelessness prevention, prioritizing services for school-aged children who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and their families.
- Provide \$20 million in grant/loan funds for the construction of low-cost modular housing in wildfire-affected areas and for low- and moderate-income households.
- Provide \$3 million in seed financing for the construction of affordable workforce rental housing.
- Address long-term housing production challenges by establishing enforceable standards for local jurisdictions to promote the production of abundant, equitable, affordable and diverse housing options.

HB 2001, including the latest amendments, reflects the urgency of the crisis too many Oregonians are experiencing due to lack of housing supply, inadequate services, and eviction statutes designed for displacement instead of stability.

We are grateful to legislative leaders for your bi-partisan, bi-cameral and immediate action on this package. These measures will help our communities respond to the crisis of homelessness,

improve stability and safety for renters across the state, and take essential steps toward resolving our long-standing housing supply challenges.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cameron Herrington". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cameron" being more prominent and the last name "Herrington" following in a similar style.

Cameron Herrington
Director of Policy and Advocacy
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