



Coos-Curry/North Bend City
Housing Authority

Linn Benton Housing Authority

Home Forward (Multnomah County)

Homes for Good (Lane County)

Housing Authority of Clackamas County

Housing Authority of Douglas County

Housing Authority of Jackson County

Housing Authority of Lincoln County

Housing Authority of Malheur County

Housing Authority of the County of Umatilla

Housing Authority of Washington County

Housing Authority of Yamhill County

Housing Works (Central Oregon)

Josephine Housing & Community
Development Council

Klamath County Housing Authority

Linn Benton Housing Authority

Marion County Housing Authority

Mid-Columbia Housing Authority

Northeast Oregon Housing Authority

Northwest Oregon Housing Authority

Salem Housing Authority

Vancouver Housing Authority

West Valley Housing Authority

8 February 2024

Housing Authorities of Oregon support SB 1537

To: Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Anderson, and Members of the Senate
Committee on Housing and Development:

For the record my name is Joel Madsen. I am Executive Director of the Mid-columbia Housing Authority serving Hood River, Wasco and Sherman Counties. I'm here this morning on behalf of Housing Authorities of Oregon to testify in support of SB 1537, a bill that will advance housing production across the state.

The Housing Authorities of Oregon are, collectively, the largest providers of affordable housing in the state of Oregon. There are 22 Housing Authorities that serve all 36 counties. Our goal is to provide a safe, affordable place for Oregonians with low incomes to call home.

SB 1537 pushes Oregon forward on housing production. Across our state, from big and mid-size cities to small, rural towns, Oregonians are straining under the pressure of the housing market that has priced many out. One element of this bill we are keenly interested in is the 30% affordable housing provision connected with any expansion area. Whether the affordable housing is built right away or after market rate housing it's critical to acknowledge deed restrictions which run with the title of the land are the gold standard to ensure the property will be built out and remain as affordable housing. Another provision of this bill is the creation of the Housing Accountability and Production Office (HAPO) which would provide a more flexible, better funded approach to support housing production consistent with statewide planning goals and laws.

We know homelessness is intertwined with the availability of affordable housing in a given area. We know that safe, stable, affordable housing is the key to reducing intergenerational poverty and increasing economic mobility. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 1537



HAO advocates for policies and resources that create safe,
stable housing options for all Oregonians haoregon.org

