

Submitter: Catherine Cromer
On Behalf Of: as a Portland resident
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2964

As a Portland resident of nine years, I have seen the proliferation of folks experiencing houselessness throughout the city. These people are not criminals. They have difficult life circumstances, exacerbated by high housing costs and a lack of affordable places to live. People can also find themselves one job loss, one medical emergency or one mental health crises away from becoming unhoused. This bill would allow for small grants to help faith communities get over pre-development hurdles, and make a home for their neighbors. This would ultimately be a small investment for the state, to unlock an outsize impact in communities across Oregon. My church, First United Methodist of Portland, has made a commitment to helping to ease the housing crisis in our city. Help us pass this bill so that we can live out our faith and make homes for these children of God.