

To Chair Marsh and members of the Committee on Housing and Homelessness:

We are writing to express our enthusiastic support for House Bill 2964. By offering targeted support to smaller organizations that might have developable land like parking lots, fields, or under-utilized buildings, but who lack significant funding resources to develop it, HB 2964 will unlock housing production that would otherwise be blocked, potentially including office-to-residential conversions.

The many faith communities and service agencies who have expressed interest in this bill are ready to do their part to address Oregon's housing crisis in ways that serve their missions. Let's help them do it!

This bill will also assist smaller, rural, and first-time developers get a jumpstart through the complex pre-development process.

Addressing Oregon's critical housing shortage needs an "all hands on deck" approach and HB 2964 is a worthy addition to the set of strategies we need to tackle the problem by assisting organizations that are ready and willing to contribute to a solution and just need a helping hand. We urge you to pass this bill.