

Submitter: Claire Hall
On Behalf Of: Housing Stability Council
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Transportation and Economic Development
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5011

March 24, 2025

Joint Committee on Transportation and Economic Development
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301
Re: Support for HB 5011

Vice-Chairs Woods and Gomberg, and Members of the Committee,

I write today in my capacity as the Chair of the Housing Stability Council to express my strong support for HB 5011 and the work Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) does to finance affordable housing construction, supportive housing, and homeless services. This bill is a vital investment in our state's efforts to address the urgent need for affordable housing and homelessness services across Oregon.

Over the past few years, OHCS has made significant strides in meeting housing and homeless goals across our state. Maintaining investments in these proven programs is vital for moving forward and ensuring that no one is left behind. The agency's efforts to expand affordable housing, increase shelter capacity, and provide services to people experiencing homelessness have been critical in advancing housing stability in Oregon. continued investment in these tried-and-true programs is essential to sustaining this progress and allowing OHCS to continue working towards ensuring all Oregonians have access to safe, stable, and affordable housing.

It is important to remember that housing is not just an urban issue—it affects every corner of our state, including rural and suburban communities. As a commissioner in Lincoln County, I've seen firsthand how housing instability and homelessness impact our rural communities, where resources are limited and the challenges are often greater. The projects and services OHCS offer impact every legislative district and are designed to address the diverse needs of Oregonians from urban centers to small towns and rural communities. The budget request before you will continue allowing OHCS to offer these critical supports that bolster the housing stability of rural communities like mine. Coastal Oregon, just as much as the metro, stands to benefit from investments that will provide critical housing opportunities and wraparound

services to individuals and families across our state, ensuring rural and urban Oregonians alike continue to receive the support they need to build stable, healthy futures.

The importance of this investment cannot be overstated. Maintaining and expanding support for OHCS programs ensures that we can continue to make progress in tackling the housing crisis. These programs provide not only the physical infrastructure needed to house Oregonians, but also the critical services necessary for long-term stability and success, such as rental assistance, mental health services, and addiction recovery support.

I urge you to support HB 5011 and invest in Oregon's future. We have made significant strides, but we must continue this work to ensure that housing stability becomes a reality for every Oregonian, no matter where they live

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Thank you for your time and your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chair Hall