



ROOTEDHOMES
BUILDING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

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ROOTEDHOMES.ORG

April 17, 2025

Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for SB 5505

Chair Girod, Chair Nosse and Members of the Committee:

RootedHomes urges your support for SB 5505 which will provide much needed capital for the construction and preservation of affordable ownership and rental housing. RootedHomes has used Local Innovation Fast Track (LIFT) funds to build 17 homes in Bend for homeowners earning 80% or less of area median income (AMI). And we have another 80 that are under construction in Deschutes County. None of these would have been possible without the state's significant financial contribution through Oregon Housing and Community Services and the LIFT program.

Between RootedHomes and our development partners we have proposed an additional 60 homes in Deschutes County in the current LIFT funding round. OHCS staff have informed us that the program may be oversubscribed and they may have to pass over worthy projects this year. As the awareness of the need for affordable homeownership options continues to grow, we anticipate the demand for LIFT funds will be even greater in years to come. In fact RootedHomes has secured land rights for a project in Prineville (Crook County) and is looking to do the same in Madras (Jefferson County) for a total of about 50 more homes. Without LIFT funds we would struggle to bring homes to these communities that have seen the development of few new affordable homeownership options.

Thank you for your consideration and service.

Karl Dinkelspiel
Deputy Director