



February 3, 2025

Re: Support For House Bill 4125

Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chairs Reschke and Walters, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Rebekah Markillie and I am writing on behalf of the Oregon Housing Alliance to request your support for HB 4124.

Oregonians love their kicker. It is a unique policy that allows surplus funds to be returned to tax payers. However, our current budgeting process does not allow us the flexibility to weather these unprecedented times. By adjusting the revenue forecast from a single estimate and changing it to a range, we can better prepare for uncertainty and still provide Oregonians a kicker during higher revenue years.

Our State economist is being asked to do the impossible but HB 4124 offers a straightforward approach to improve Oregon's budgeting process.

The Oregon Housing Alliance is a statewide coalition of over 100 member organizations, including tenant organizations; affordable housing developers and operators; social service providers and shelter operators; Community Action Agencies; Public Housing Authorities; housing industry businesses and professionals; city and county governments; and community-based nonprofits and advocacy groups. Many of our members are within the community land trust ecosystem and organizations that are committed to expanding homeownership opportunities across the state.

Our diverse membership is united by the belief that every Oregonian deserves a home that is affordable, stable, accessible and safe. We rely on funding that is made available through our State bonding capacity and revenue forecasts, and we would like to see better stability and predictability in this area. To this end, we urge your support of House Bill 4124.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebekah Markillie'.

Rebekah Markillie
Oregon Housing Alliance
rmarkillie@neighborhoodpartnerships.org