



February 4, 2025

Re: Support For Senate Bill 1576

Chair Pham, Vice-Chair Anderson, 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 SB 1576. This bill would increase the number of accessible units for older adults and Oregonians with disabilities.

This bill seeks to address the severe unmet need Oregonians have for accessible housing. The housing needs for people with disabilities have never been met; 1 in 4 people have a disability and 1 in 8 people have difficulties walking but only 1 in 100 housing units are estimated to be accessible.

SB 1576 Increases the number of accessible housing units by requiring that new housing include a higher percentage of units built to recognized accessibility standards. This will gradually increase the supply of homes that people with disabilities can actually use, and it will help ensure that Oregon's housing stock reflects the real needs of our population.

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. By increasing the total stock of accessible housing across our State we foster dignity. Accessible housing doesn't just benefit a single person with need but the broader community around them. To this end, we urge your support of House Bill 4124.

Sincerely,

Rebekah Markillie
Oregon Housing Alliance
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