



Chair Pham, Vice Chair Anderson and members of the Senate Committee On Housing and Development,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in favor of **SB 1576: The Accessible Housing Act**. We are writing on behalf of the Human Services Coalition of Oregon (HSCO). HSCO is a coalition representing over 50 human services-aligned organizations across Oregon that join together to promote the dignity of all Oregonians through improved public policy and strengthened support for human services.

HSCO's members represent a broad spectrum of organizations that weave the web needed to support people in our community who may otherwise fall through the cracks. This includes supporting the need for housing that is accessible and affordable for everyone. Unfortunately, people with disabilities, veterans, and older adults in Oregon lack homes that meet basic accessibility needs. By 2050, the number of Americans aged 65 and up will grow by 27 million, comprising a quarter of the US population. Acting now to strengthen housing accessibility standards is a commonsense way to impact housing accessibility now and in the long-term as we all continue to age.

To truly resolve Oregon's housing crisis, the state must address the need for accessible housing. This simple legislation, informed by communities most impacted by these barriers, gives an opportunity to make tangible progress towards affordable and accessible housing for all Oregonians.

The Human Services Coalition of Oregon (HSCO) encourages your support of SB 1576, The Accessible Housing Act.

Thank you for your consideration,

HSCO Board