



**HOUSING
ALLIANCE**

www.OregonHousingAlliance.org

Members:

1000 Friends of Oregon
211info
AFSCME Local 3135
Alliance of Family & Housing Success
Bienestar
CASA of Oregon
Cascade Management Inc.
Central City Concern
Chrisman Development Inc.
City of Portland
Clackamas County
Community Action Partnership of Oregon
Community Action Team, Inc.
Community Alliance of Tenants
Community Housing Fund
Community Partners for Affordable Housing
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon
Fair Housing Council of Oregon
Farmworker Housing Development Corporation
Habitat for Humanity of Oregon
Hacienda CDC
Housing Advocates Group of Washington County
Housing Development Center
Human Solutions
Impact Northwest
Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization
Lane County Legal Aid and Advocacy Center
League of Women Voters of Oregon
Lincoln County
Metro
NAYA Family Center
Neighborhood Economic Development Corporation (NEDCO)
Neighborhood Partnerships
NeighborWorks Umpqua
Network for Oregon Affordable Housing
Northwest Housing Alternatives
Northwest Pilot Project
Open Door Counseling Center
Oregon Food Bank
Oregon Housing Authorities
Oregon Opportunity Network
Partners for a Hunger Free Oregon
Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives, Inc.
Proud Ground
Raphael House
REACH CDC
St. Vincent de Paul of Lane County, Inc.
ShelterCare
Sisters of the Road
Street Roots
Washington County
Welcome Home Coalition
Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services

HB 5513: Housing and Community Services Budget

**Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation
and Economic Development**

February 24, 2015

HB 5513: Housing and Community Services Budget

**Co-Chair Johnson and Co-Chair Gomberg and
members of the Committee;**

The Housing Alliance is a coalition of more than fifty organizations from all parts of the state. Our members have come together with the knowledge that housing opportunity is the base on which all of our success is built – individual success as students, parents, workers, and neighbors as well as the success of our communities. We represent a diverse set of voices from residents to local jurisdictions to nonprofit housing developers and organizations working to meet basic needs.

I am here today in support of the Housing and Community Services budget proposal, and to ask as well that you act along with the other members of Ways and Means to increase the allocations in three critical areas:

- **We need at least \$20 million in resources this biennium to end and prevent homelessness. The proposed budget does not go far enough to meet critical housing needs in Oregon communities. Our children are homeless while trying to learn to read, families are facing barriers to success at every turn, and people need a stable home in which to live out their years or address health crises.**
- **We need to continue to address the**



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foreclosure crisis that undermined homeowners across the state. Foreclosures are still four times over "normal". We must fund foreclosure counselors and legal support for homeowners, at an estimated cost of \$5 million this biennium.

- **We cannot lose affordable homes. We must continue to invest in the preservation of housing with deep rent subsidies, and homes in manufactured housing communities statewide. The Capital Construction Subcommittee will hear this request in more detail.**

On behalf of the Housing Alliance, I urge your actions in support of housing opportunity. Our success as students, employees, parents, and communities depends on each of us having a home to rest in at night. Thank you for your support, and for your service to Oregon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet Byrd". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

**Janet Byrd
On Behalf of the Oregon Housing Alliance**