

February 2, 2018

House Committee on Human Services and Housing
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

hhs.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

Chair Keny Guyer, Vice-Chair Olson, Vice Chair Sanchez, and Members of the Committee:

I am the Executive Director of Klamath-Lake Community Action Services (KLCAS), and the chair of the Community Action Partnership (CAPO) Board of Directors. CAPO is the State Association for Community Action in Oregon, and supports the 17 agencies, plus Oregon Human Development Corporation serving every region of the State, with training, technical assistance, program support and advocacy services.

Every Oregonian deserves a safe place to call home. Oregon's Community Action network works every day to provide housing for low-income and homeless households. The CAPO board of directors has voted unanimously to support HB 4007, which will increase the document-recording fee (DRF) from the current amount of \$20 to \$75.

A portion of the DRF supports emergency rent assistance (10%), down payment assistance (14%), and affordable housing development (76%). Additionally, 25% of each category is set aside to serve veterans. The additional support of each one of these services will increase a continuum of housing supports, including funding for emergency rental assistance provided by our network. The network is committed to homeless prevention....maintaining families in their homes so they do not become homeless, and rapidly re-housing families who do become homeless.

The lack of affordable housing in Oregon adds to the desperate situation our families are facing around the State. Families with adults working two jobs cannot afford rents in their communities. Increasing the DRF is one important tool that will address this emergency.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony to your committee. I appreciate your time and attention.

Sincerely,



Donna Bowman, Chair
Community Action Partnership Board of Directors and
Executive Director
Klamath-Lake Community Action Services

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