

3/4/2021 1:00 PM – Senate Bill 79SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

I oppose SB 79; as written, “Oregon Housing Stability Counsel (OHSC) shall provide grants and loans to individuals for down payments assistance and grants, loans and technical assistance to organization...leverage partnership with private sector, credit unions or other financial institution...leverage funding from other nonprofit sources...grants or loans to organization that both sponsor and manage home-ownership programs for households...grants, loans and technical assistance to organizations that, in working with households”.

Laws either proposed or enacted purporting loans are nothing other than a quasi-state bank and are illegal according to Oregon Constitution Article XI, Section 1; Prohibition of State Banks [Page 39, OCAPREAM (oregon.gov) PDF file].

Additionally, I oppose SB 79 as written, median income of area within the state. U.S. Census 2020 indicates that the median income per household in Oregon is \$62,818.00; this is not an income that I would consider needing the unlawful down payment assistance.... Oregon or City of Portland in particular used to have homeowner seminars to give an overview of home-ownership acquisition education and loan resource information for first time buyer navigation. Possibly the state legislators need to examine the federal HUD program, but SB 79 is not legal and would be a unlawful act by the Legislative Assembly under the Oregon Constitution no matter how many state agencies and non-profit organizations you filter the state general revenue fund.