



MULTIFAMILY NW

The Association Promoting Quality Rental Housing

Oregon Senate Committee on Housing and Development
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Gary Fisher
gary@multifamilynw.org

RE: Support for SB 50 -1

March 7, 2025

Chair Pham, Vice Chair Anderson and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Multifamily NW, we are pleased to offer our strong support for SB 50, which amends the Local Innovation and Fast Track Housing Program Fund to direct the Housing and Community Services Department to allocate resources for the creation of affordable housing.

Multifamily NW is the largest association of housing providers in the state, representing nearly 300,000 units and every profession related to the industry — from property managers and owners to landscapers, maintenance professionals and screening companies. Our top priority is to collaborate with public sector leaders to identify and implement proven solutions to Oregon's ongoing housing crisis.

SB 50 is a vital step in addressing the ongoing housing shortage in Oregon. By strengthening the fund, this bill ensures that resources are effectively directed toward increasing the availability of affordable housing, particularly by encouraging the conversion of existing multifamily housing into affordable options for low-income households. The funding flexibility and strategic use of general obligation bonds will enable us to leverage these resources in a way that can have a real, lasting impact on Oregon's housing crisis.

Multifamily NW strongly believes that the creation of affordable housing solutions must be multifaceted. SB 50 supports this approach by not only enhancing the resources available but also providing a clear directive to the Housing and Community Services Department to prioritize efforts that directly increase the supply of housing for those in need.

We also applaud the clarity in the bill regarding the dedicated use of funds and the commitment to transparency in how the funds will be managed and distributed. This will provide confidence to all stakeholders that the program's goals will be met effectively and efficiently.

We are committed to working with all involved to ensure that these efforts lead to meaningful and sustained improvements in Oregon's affordable housing stock. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Zach Lindahl
Director of Government Affairs

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