



February 15, 2026

House Committee on Revenue
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Support for HB 4136

Dear Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chairs Reschke and Walters, and Members of the Committee:

House Bill 4136 secures reliable funding for Oregon's successful downpayment assistance program, making homeownership a reality for thousands of Oregon families who are ready to set down roots in communities all across our state. These are households that can afford the monthly expense of a mortgage, but remain locked out of homeownership by the high cost of a downpayment. The Oregon Housing Alliance asks you to support HB 4136. This legislation overcomes the downpayment barrier with one-time assistance that sets families up for decades of stable, affordable housing.

HB 4136 will provide funds to help some 250 low- and moderate-income families each year to purchase their first home – without requiring any new spending. The dedicated revenue for this program comes from redirecting existing spending away from an antiquated, counterproductive subsidy in our state's tax code: the mortgage interest deduction for vacation properties. A bonus tax break for vacation houses – in addition to the deduction that homeowners will continue to be able to claim for the mortgages on their actual homes – is a poor use of our state's resources. This tax deduction does not promote homeownership; it undermines it. By offering the MID for vacation properties, the state helps pay for houses that are largely vacant and remain off the market for homebuyers – further limiting supply and driving up prices. Vacation properties are a wonderful privilege for some, but they should not receive a state subsidy. Those resources should instead support Oregonians who are working and saving to purchase their *first* homes.

Supporting first-time homebuyers in place of an extra subsidy for those who own multiple personal properties is a wise decision, and a fair decision. The Oregon Housing Alliance calls on you to invest in the future of your constituents and our communities across the state, by securing a reliable pathway to homeownership through HB 4136.

Sincerely,

Cameron Herrington
Director of Policy & Advocacy

The Oregon Housing Alliance is a statewide coalition of housing providers, tenant organizations, homeless service agencies, local governments, and housing advocates.

We believe every Oregonian deserves a home that is affordable, stable, accessible and safe.
oregonhousingalliance.org





Coalition members

Local governments

- Benton County
- City of Beaverton
- City of Bend
- City of Eugene
- City of Hillsboro
- City of Tigard
- Lane County Human Services
- League of Oregon Cities
- Lincoln County
- Metro
- Multnomah County
- Portland Housing Bureau
- Wash. County Dept. of Housing Services

Affordable housing providers

- Bend-Redmond Habitat for Humanity
- Bienestar
- BRIDGE Housing
- CASA of Oregon
- Central City Concern
- Chrisman Development, Inc.
- College Housing Northwest
- Columbia Cascade Housing Corporation
- Community Development Partners
- Community Partners for Affordable Housing
- Cornerstone Community Housing
- DevNW
- Farmworker Housing Development Corp,
- Gorman & Company
- Habitat for Humanity of Oregon
- Habitat for Humanity Portland Region
- Hacienda CDC
- Hive Development LLC
- Housing Oregon
- Innovative Housing, Inc.
- Mercy Housing
- Native American Youth & Family Center

- NeighborWorks Umpqua
- Northwest Housing Alternatives
- Our Just Future
- PCRI
- Proud Ground
- REACH Community Development
- Relay Resources
- RootedHomes
- Rose CDC
- Sponsors, Inc.
- SquareOne Villages
- St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane Co.
- Thistle & Nest
- West Tuality Habitat for Humanity
- Wishcamper Development Partners

Housing industry allies

- ACID Architecture
- BackHome ADU
- Bora Architecture
- Community Housing Fund
- Dream Development LLC
- Enterprise Community Partners
- Housing Development Center
- Network for Oregon Affordable Housing

Public Housing Authorities

- Home Forward
- Housing Authorities of Oregon
- Housing Authority of Clackamas County
- Housing Works
- Housing Authority of Washington Country
- Mid-Columbia Housing Authority
- Salem Housing Authority

Community Action Agencies

- ACCESS – Jackson County
- Community Action Partnership of Oregon
- Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action
- NeighborImpact
- Oregon Human Development Corporation

Nonprofit and community organizations

- 1000 Friends of Oregon
- 211info
- Aging in the Gorge
- Cascade AIDS Project
- Center for Hope and Safety
- Church Women United of Lane County
- Coalition of Community Health Clinics
- Community Alliance of Tenants
- Community Vision
- Community Warehouse
- Disability Rights Oregon
- Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon
- Fair Housing Council of Oregon
- Horizon Project
- Humane World for Animals
- Interfaith Alliance on Poverty
- JOIN
- Latino Network
- League of Women Voters of Oregon
- Neighborhood Partnerships
- Northwest Pilot Project
- Oregon Consumer Justice
- Oregon Cooperative Housing Network
- Ore. Council on Developmental Disabilities
- Oregon Food Bank
- Oregon Law Center
- Oregon State Tenants Organization
- Our Children Oregon
- Path Home
- Portland Housing Center
- Portland: Neighbors Welcome
- Raphael House of Portland
- REPAIR
- Residents Organizing for Change
- Resolutions Northwest
- Rogue Action Center
- Salem YIMBY
- Sightline Institute
- Springfield Eugene Tenant Association
- St. Francis Shelter
- The Commons Law Center
- Transition Projects
- Unite Oregon
- Urban League of Portland
- Welcome Home Coalition

