



Rachael Duke, Chair -  
Community Partners  
for Affordable Housing

Kymberly Horner, Vice  
Chair - Portland  
Community  
Reinvestment  
Initiatives

Kristy Willard,  
Treasurer - Housing  
Authority of Malheur &  
Harney Counties

Shannon Vilhauer,  
Secretary - Habitat for  
Humanity Oregon

Trell Anderson -  
Northwest Housing  
Alternatives

Jessica Blakely -  
Salem Housing  
Authority

Julie Delgado, The  
Urban League of  
Portland

Aubre Dickson -  
Community Housing  
Fund

Rita Grady - Polk CDC

Maria Elena Guerra -  
Farmworker Housing  
Development Corp

Jackie Keogh -  
RootedHomes

Erica Ledesma -  
Coalición Fortaleza

Erica Mills -  
NeighborWorks  
Umpqua

Margaret Salazar -  
Reach CDC

Sheila Stiley - NW  
Coastal Housing

March 4, 2025

Chair Marsh, Vice Chair Breese-Iverson, Vice Chair Andersen, and members of the committee,

My name is Kevin Cronin, and I serve as the Director of Policy and Advocacy at Housing Oregon. Housing Oregon represents over 120 nonprofit affordable housing providers across the state, including organizations developing and preserving affordable rental housing, expanding affordable homeownership, and providing homeless services.

I write today in strong support of House Bill 3589, which takes a thoughtful approach to expanding housing options for older adults and people with disabilities—two groups that are increasingly vulnerable to homelessness.

HB 3589 directs Oregon Housing and Community Services to develop and implement a program that incentivizes the creation of senior and disability-accessible housing using excess funds from existing programs, including LIFT, GHAP, LIHTC, and other available resources. This bill maximizes the tools we already have to address a growing crisis, rather than waiting for new funding sources.

We are seeing a sharp rise in senior homelessness, and that increase has corresponded with more unhoused individuals dying while living outside. The need for targeted, deeply affordable housing for seniors and people with disabilities has never been greater. HB 3589 ensures that our state's affordable housing programs are working to meet that need, using funding streams that are already in place.

I want to thank Chair Marsh for her leadership on this issue and urge the committee to support this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kevin Cronin  
Director of Policy and Advocacy  
Housing Oregon