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February 13, 2023

Rep. Maxine Dexter, Chair, and Members  
House Committee on Housing and Homelessness  
State Capitol  
Salem, OR

Re: HB 2001, -1

Dear Chair Dexter and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of HB 2001, including the -1 amendment. 1000 Friends of Oregon is a nonprofit, membership organization that works with Oregonians to support livable urban and rural communities; protect family farms, forests and natural areas; and provide transportation and housing choice.

HB 2001, -1 offers direct and innovative solutions for housing instability and insecurity. These include a focus on preventing youth homelessness; grants and loans to enable production of modular housing, which can be turned out and put in place quickly, with preference to produce homes for those displaced by natural disasters and for those of low and middle income; and a program for financing of predevelopment costs, including infrastructure, site acquisition, and technical assessments reports, for housing affordable to those of middle income for at least 25 years.

For many years, 1000 Friends has worked with and learned from nonprofit affordable housing developers and smaller developers of middle housing. We have seen the critical role that financing of predevelopment costs can play in supporting these nonprofit and smaller developers through the multiple steps necessary before any construction is started.

We urge support of HB 2001, -1. Thank you for consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Kyle McCurdy".

Mary Kyle McCurdy  
Deputy Director