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**To:** Members of the Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee on Joint Transportation and Economic Development

**From:** Sponsors, Inc.  
Submitted by Annie Herz, Executive Director

**Date:** March 25, 2025

**Re:** HB 5011, Oregon Housing and Community Services agency budget

Sponsors, Inc., is a national leader in the delivery of prisoner reentry services, operating in Lane County. We offer a broad range of services, including case management, employment assistance, transitional and long term housing, cognitive behavioral therapy, mental health services and mentoring. These are supports that people need to be successful upon returning to their community.

I write in support of HB 5011 and funding for the Oregon Housing and Community Services agency budget, particularly the budget for *POP 515: LIFTing up OR: Building Affordable Housing \$780M funding (LIFT funding)*.

Sponsors has worked in Lane County to develop permanent supportive housing projects, in collaboration with Homes for Good Housing Agency, and Lane County, over the last several decades. In the near future we hope to begin construction on The Coleman

Project. The Coleman is a 4-story mixed-use building that will include 52 individual living units, Sponsors' Reentry Resource Center, support service space, a large multi-function meeting room, and outdoor community spaces.

The Coleman will serve individuals with conviction histories who have successfully completed Sponsors' transitional housing program, and who are at high risk for homelessness. Services associated with The Coleman will include:

- Individualized case management
- Support in securing employment and/or pursuing education
- Individual and group behavioral health services
- Parenting classes/Parent-child visitation space
- Peer support services
- Other services to support self-sufficiency

POP 515 will provide the resources necessary for OHCS to fund LIFT projects like the Coleman, for these reasons we fully support the investments in HB 5011.