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March 2, 2023

To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Transportation and Economic Development

***RE: Support for SB 5511 – Housing & Community Services Department Budget***

Dear Co-Chair Woods, Co-Chair Gomberg and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of ***Foundation for Affordable Housing, Inc.*** based in Bend, I urge your strong support for SB 5511, the Governor's recommended \$3.76 billion budget for Oregon Housing and Community Services.

Oregon is facing an unprecedented crisis of unsheltered children, adults, and families, as well as extraordinary numbers of households experiencing housing insecurity, living in substandard housing, and living in housing that is increasingly unaffordable relative to incomes. We as Oregonians cannot accept these conditions and let so many of our friends, neighbors, and family members go without their basic housing needs met.

Governor Kotek's budget takes significant and meaningful steps toward tackling this current crisis with ***substantial*** investments across the housing continuum, including resources that address:

- Homelessness response and prevention
- Rental assistance
- Homeownership assistance
- Asset building
- Housing supply

These investments will not only provide relief to struggling families, but will ultimately strengthen Oregon's economy, improve community health and safety, and bolster our state's prosperity as Oregon's workforce is stabilized.

***Please support Oregon by supporting SB 5511.***

Thank you for the work that you do on behalf of all Oregonians,

Sincerely,

**FOUNDATION FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING, INC.**

By:

Name:

Its:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tarun Chandran".

Tarun Chandran

Vice President