



March 6, 2023

Senator Aaron Woods
Representative David Gomberg
Co-Chairs, Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Transportation and Economic Development
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for HB 5019

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

I write to you today on behalf of Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH) **to urge you to support of SB 5019**. This bill appropriates \$155 million for homelessness prevention and services to address the human suffering caused by the housing crisis we're facing in Oregon. The bill follows through on Governor Kotek's Executive Orders 23-02 and 23-03 providing funds for the following:

- \$33.6 million to prevent homelessness statewide to prevent evictions for 8,750 households statewide.
- \$85.2 million to rehouse people experiencing homelessness and expand shelter capacity in emergency areas by creating 600 new shelter beds and rehousing 1,200 homeless individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
- \$27.4 million to rehouse people experiencing homelessness and expand shelter capacity in the 26 rural counties that make up the Balance of State Continuum of Care.
- \$5 million to federally recognized Tribes to address homelessness needs among tribal members statewide, and,
- \$3.9 million for emergency management response coordination by OHCS and ODEM.

As a community housing development organization who serves residents of Washington County and SW Portland, including providing housing and services for many of our most vulnerable community members who are experiencing homelessness, we understand the impact that a lack of dignified affordable housing can mean for our fellow Oregonians. These resources will make a significant difference in the lives of people experiencing homelessness.

HB 5019 also directs state agencies to work together, across all levels of government, to make the immediate and long-term changes that this humanitarian crisis requires. We appreciate the additional appropriation of \$27.4 million for the balance of state for areas not covered by the Governor's state of emergency declaration. Community Partners for Affordable Housing is ready to roll up our sleeves and support efforts to get these resources out to those most in need.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS
FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING Tel: 503.293.4038 * Fax: 503.293.4039 * TTY/VCO: 800.735.2900

P.O. Box 23206 * Tigard, OR 97281-3206 * cpahoregon.org

In addition to this initial down payment, we urge the Legislature to make significant, additional investments to rehouse and prevent homelessness for more Oregonians, build and preserve more housing units statewide, and increase homeownership. We are grateful to legislative leaders for acting quickly to move this legislation forward.

Thank you for your time and for your service to the State of Oregon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachael Duke".

Rachael Duke, Executive Director
Community Partners for Affordable Housing