



HOOD RIVER | PORTLAND | WASHOUGAL

GORGEFRIENDS.ORG

February 5, 2025

House Committee on Housing & Homelessness

Re: HB 2347 - SUPPORT

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chair Anderson, Vice-Chair Breese-Iverson, and Committee Members:

Friends of the Columbia Gorge (“Friends”) is a non-profit organization with approximately 5,000 members. Friends is dedicated to protecting and enhancing the scenic, cultural, recreation, and natural resources of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

Friends strongly supports Section 1 of HB 2347 which empowers the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) the ability to provide grants and technical assistance to federally recognized Indian tribes to incentivize housing production on tribal lands.

Our tribal partners in the Columbia River Gorge include the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla, two of the federally recognized tribes in Oregon. Both tribes are facing housing challenges, with a shortage of safe, affordable housing available to tribal members on the reservations. Allowing the DLCD to provide grants and technical assistance to federally recognized tribes in Oregon would be a crucial step to addressing the housing crises faced by multiple tribes.

Please support HB 2347.

Sincerely,
Renée Tkach
Conservation Director