



May 1, 2023

Senator Kayse Jama
Chair, Senate Committee on Housing and Development
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for HB 3462

Dear Chair Jama and Members of the Committee:

My name is Rose Ojeda, Director of CASA of Oregon's Manufactured Housing and Cooperative Development Center. CASA expresses our support for House Bill 3462,

Beginning in January, 2021, CASA of Oregon began to explore how we could help respond to the loss of eighteen manufactured housing communities in Phoenix and Talent destroyed by the September 8, 2020 Almeda Wildfire. We began with the Southern Oregon Housing Needs Assessment completed in partnership by Coalición Fortaleza and CASA of Oregon. This Housing Needs assessment confirms the most vulnerable household displaced by the wildfire are immigrant Latinx households, many with mixed and undocumented status. This lack of residency status disqualifies households for federal emergency assistance and leaves them particularly vulnerable to homelessness. Because of federal policies denying assistance to undocumented immigrants, these households are left to depend only upon themselves, local community support or state assistance. House Bill 3462 will permit state agencies to provide emergency housing assistance to those households displaced by a natural disaster, and specifically, for those who do not qualify for federal emergency assistance. HB 3462 will also ensure the housing is safe and complies with Fair Housing statutes.

We urge your support of HB 3462.

Sincerely,

Rose Ojeda

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Director, Manufactured Housing and Cooperative Development Center