



March 4, 2025

Senator Khanh Pham
Chair, Senate Committee on Housing and Development
900 Court St NE, S-407
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for SB 973, SB 31 and SB 32

Chair Pham, Vice-Chair Anderson, and Members of the Committee:

I am asking on behalf of the Housing Alliance your support of three bills, SB 937, SB 31 and SB 32. These three bills provide transparent information, critical protections and assistance for Oregonians who face displacement and possible homelessness because the affordability restrictions for their homes will expire.

SB 937 requires that landlords inform applicants for affordable housing of the date when the property's affordability restrictions end. A second reminder notice will be required to all tenants 30 months in advance of the expiration date. For many families, securing affordable housing means long term stability. But most of Oregon's affordable housing is not guaranteed to be permanent. The notice SB 937 creates will give applicants the critical information they need to understand the long-term stability of their rental agreement.

SB 31 creates a fund to mitigate the impacts of expiring affordability for tenants. These funds can be used flexibly to meet each household's own circumstances. Eligible uses include: helping offset the higher, market-rate rents at a tenant's current property; moving expenses; rental application fees; security deposit and first/last month's rent for a new home.

SB 32 will improve public knowledge of this looming crisis by improving the OHCS preservation dashboard. The data that will be publicly reported will help legislators respond to the problem of expiring affordable housing, and will support the efforts of affordable housing providers that seek to purchase expiring properties in order to keep them affordable.

The loss of affordability restrictions threatens to undo the progress we've been making towards ameliorating our state's housing crisis. Without these critical safeguards and increased access to information, hundreds of households face traumatic and life-altering consequences through no fault of their own.

The Oregon Housing Alliance is a statewide coalition of over 100 member organizations, including tenant organizations; affordable housing developers and operators; social service providers and shelter operators; Community Action Agencies; Public Housing Authorities; housing industry businesses and professionals; city and county governments; and community-based nonprofits and advocacy groups. Our members are the organizations that will be distributing the funds from SB 31, and using the information shared in SB 32 to help residents.

A statewide coalition of housing providers, tenant organizations, homeless service agencies, local governments, and housing advocates. We believe every Oregonian deserves a home that is affordable, stable, accessible and safe.
oregonhousingalliance.org



Again, I urge you to support SB 937, SB 31 and SB 32. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebekah Markillie".

Rebekah Markillie
Oregon Housing Alliance
rmarkillie@neighborhoodpartnerships.org

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