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Testimony on HB 3138

Chair Dexter and members of the committee,

As a city councilor in McMinnville, and chair of the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments, which serves 44 local government entities in Marion-Polk and Yamhill Counties, I am writing to express my support for this important legislation which will provide smaller communities throughout the state some of the resources needed to address homelessness in our state. .

Smaller rural cities like McMinnville are **not eligible** for Community Development Block Grants available to larger communities like Salem, Corvallis, Eugene, Springfield, Bend, Medford, etc. and yet face the problems we face are comparable in terms of the need for subsidized housing and addressing homelessness and help provide a release valve for larger communities that have been plagued by affordable housing and homelessness. .

The one question I would ask is, whether it is possible to attach an emergency declaration attached to this request to ensure the funds are available sooner?

Respectfully,

Sal Peralta