



5/4/21

Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction

Co-Chair Girod, Co-Chair Holvey, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of ROSE Community Development, I urge you to support SB 5534, and the inclusion of \$100 million to preserve and maintain existing affordable in Lottery bonds.

ROSE builds affordable homes and community to make outer southeast Portland neighborhoods strong and equitable. Our housing helps provide affordable housing in neighborhoods that have been historically underserved but are rapidly gentrifying. In 2019, we opened over 100 units of new housing.

All Oregonians need a safe, stable, and affordable place to call home. Many of Oregon's affordable apartment homes were built by private owners using resources from the federal government, including rental assistance which helps households with low incomes to pay the rent every month.

ROSE completed the first preservation of a HUD-subsidized property in Oregon in 1996. Since then, these apartments have provided stability, safety, and affordability for area residents. The people who live in these homes are seniors, people experiencing disabilities, and families just starting out.

Today, we have the opportunity to reinvest in these homes and ensure they will be safe and available for the next generation. Just like schools or hospitals, affordable rental homes need regular investments to ensure they stay safe for people to live in. Oregon needs to steward these aging homes for future generations without raising rents.

We urge your support for the inclusion of \$100 million to preserve and maintain affordable housing in communities across Oregon.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick Sauvie".

Nick Sauvie
Executive Director
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