



Friday, April 7, 2023

Sheila Stiley, Board chair – NW Coastal Housing

Kymberly Horner, Vice-chair - Portland Community Reinvestment Inc.

Rachael Duke, Secretary - Community Partners for Affordable Housing

Kristy Rodriguez, Treasurer - Housing Authority of Malheur & Harney Counties

Trell Anderson – Northwest Housing Alternatives

David Brandt - Housing Works

Wakan Alferes - Homes for Good

Rita Grady – Polk CDC

Maria Elena Guerra - Farmworker Housing Development Corp

Nkenge Harmon Johnson – Urban League of Portland

Brad Ketch – Rockwood CDC & Community Dev. Corp. of Oregon

Erica Mills – NeighborWorks Umpqua

Shannon Vilhauer – Habitat for Humanity Oregon

Senator Mark Meek
Representative Nancy Nathanson Co-Chairs,
Joint Committee on Tax Expenditures
900 Court St NE Salem, OR 97301

Co-Chairs Meek, Nathanson, Members of the Committee,

My name is Kevin Cronin, Director of Member Relations and Industry support for Housing Oregon. As the membership-based statewide association of affordable housing nonprofit developers committed to serving and supporting low-income Oregonians across the housing needs spectrum – from homeless to homeowner – Housing Oregon advocates for House Bill 2466, as it would reduce the cost to develop limited-equity housing cooperatives. This bill proposes that such cooperatives receive the same property tax exemption currently enjoyed by other affordable housing models.

Limited Equity Cooperatives are one of the few housing models that provide low-income individuals with a means to become homeowners, fostering long-term stability and affordability. By eliminating property taxes from the cost of ownership, HB 2466 would render co-ops even more affordable for residents with lower incomes. It would also ensure that co-ops receive the same treatment as other types of affordable housing.

The passage of this bill would go a long way in addressing the housing crisis faced by low-income households in our state. We urge you to support HB 2466.

Thank you very much for your consideration of our comments and for your service to our state. You can reach me at 971-347-8503 or kevin@housingoregon.org.

Sincerely,

Kevin Cronin
Director of Member Relations and Industry Support, Housing Oregon