



We build strength, stability, self-reliance and shelter.

March 12, 2023

To: Senate Committee on Housing and Development

**RE: Support for Senate Bill 936**

Dear Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Anderson and Members of the Committee:

My name is Rick Rogers and I am writing on behalf of Newberg Area Habitat for Humanity to urge your strong support for Senate Bill 936.

SB 936 would:

- Allocate \$100 million each biennium to subsidize the development of 500 homes with a maximum subsidy of \$200,000 per home.
- Improve the existing Land Acquisition Revolving Loan Program or create a new fund of \$30 million to purchase 200 parcels for homeownership development per biennium at zero percent interest.
- Allocate \$20 million to OHCS to invest in community-based, innovative models for increasing homeownership in culturally responsive ways.

The underproduction of housing and shortage of entry-level homes are driving up unaffordability for everyone and impeding efforts to close racial, ethnic and generational gaps in homeownership and wealth-building opportunities. Oregon's Housing Needs Analysis makes it clear: **The state must invest in the production of new homes.** As homeownership providers, Habitat for Humanity organizations have a proven track record of successfully leveraging similar funding resources, such as Local Innovation and Fast Track (LIFT) for Homeownership, to double or triple local production of homes sold to low- and moderate-income families and individuals in Oregon communities of all sizes.

**We have successfully utilized LIFT to build decent, safe, affordable housing in our service area.**

Organizations like Newberg Area Habitat for Humanity are well-positioned to help meet Oregon's supply shortfalls, but we need critical investments like the allocations included in Senate Bill 936.

Thank you for your consideration and service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Rogers".

Rick Rogers  
Executive Director