



*Housing Oregon
Board members:*

February 14, 2020

*Sheila Stiley,
Board chair - NW
Coastal Housing*

Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Co-Chair Senator Betsy Johnson
Co-Chair Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
Co-Chair Representative Dan Rayfield
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

*Diane Linn,
Vice-chair - Proud
Ground*

*Travis Phillips,
Secretary
-Catholic Charities
of Oregon*

Attention Co-Chairs Johnson, Steiner Hayward, Rayfield and members of the Committee:

*Trell Anderson,
Treasurer -NW
Housing
Alternatives*

Housing Oregon supports HB 4003.

*Rachael Duke -
Community
Partners for
Affordable Housing*

Housing Oregon is a membership-based statewide association of affordable housing community development corporations (CDCs) committed to serving and supporting low-income Oregonians across the housing needs spectrum – from homeless to homeowner.

*Ernesto Fonseca -
Hacienda CDC*

We are working towards a day when every Oregonian has a safe and healthy place to call home. HB 4003 will help reach that goal.

*Nkenge Harmon
Johnson - Urban
League of Portland*

Housing Oregon thanks co-chairs Senator Manning, Representative Meek, and members of the Task Force on Addressing Racial Disparities in Home Ownership for their dedication and time spent researching, hearing many ideas, and deliberating to identify effective strategies for eliminating barriers to homeownership that people of color face in Oregon.

*Sean Hubert-
Central City
Concern*

*Richard Morrow
-Columbia
Cascade Housing
Corp.*

Communities of color continue to face systemic barriers in Oregon to accessing opportunities for homeownership as a result of generations of racist legislation and industry practices going back to the founding of this state.

*Arielle Reid -
NeighborWorks
Umpqua*

HB 4003 is an important step forward towards breaking through these systemic barriers that will require all of us to work together including government, community-based organizations, financial institutions and the real estate industry.

*Lisa Rogers -
CASA of Oregon*

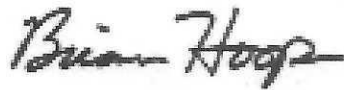
A key component of HB 4003 is to ensure we are getting the necessary resources to culturally specific organizations who are best equipped to design effective programs that fit the needs of their constituencies to access the financial education, counseling, and resources, such as the IDA initiative, to succeed in reaching their goals of homeownership.

The focus also needs to be on how we are eliminating bias and other systemic barriers within the institutions that historically are gatekeepers to the resources including government, financial institutions, real estate industry and community based organizations that all have a role in delivering homeownership and financial education, counseling services.

Finally, it's important we continue to build up resources for the IDA initiative so when individuals and families are ready to take that step towards homeownership, we have the programs and sufficient funding in place to help them succeed.

Thank you for your attention to and support for the critical work of this task force.

Sincerely,



Brian Hoop
Director, Housing Oregon



Sheila Stiley
Board Chair, Housing Oregon
Executive Director
NW Coastal Housing