



February 26, 2020

Representative Nancy Nathanson, Chair  
House Committee on Revenue  
900 Court Se. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

**RE: The City of Eugene SUPPORTS passage of SB 1531-A**

The City of Eugene supports the passing of SB 1531-A, which recognizes that local option property tax exemptions are a critical tool that the City of Eugene utilizes to build affordable housing in our community.

Over the years, the Legislature has authorized several local option property tax exemptions for affordable housing, including ORS 307.515 and ORS 307.540. SB 1531 addresses the recent change made by the federal government to allow for more people of different income levels to be served by affordable housing.

We support the Legislature updating the local option property tax exemptions to align with this new criterion by including this update in SB 1531-A. This change allows averaging of incomes of property occupants in determination of income for low-income rental and nonprofit low-income rental property tax exemptions if property is awarded tax credits through the federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program.

This bill originated in the Senate and was passed unanimously out of the Senate Chamber. We thank you for your time and ask that you pass this bill out of House Revenue Committee and onto the House floor.

Sincerely,

*Submitted Electronically*

Ethan Nelson  
Intergovernmental Relations Manager