



OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE DISTRICT 35

June 23, 2025

Timothy G. Sekerak
Chief Clerk of the House
State Capitol Building
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Vote Explanation on [HB 5011 A](#)

Dear Chief Clerk Sekerak,

Thank you for accepting my vote explanation for [HB 5011 A](#). I have heard from many advocates and constituents about the estimated 70% funding cut to rent assistance in the Oregon Housing and Community Services agency budget. In the 2023-2025 biennium, that money supported over 27,000 households; households that without those funds, would have faced eviction, houselessness, and extreme economic hardship. Under the new budget, only an estimated 4,000 households will be able to receive eviction prevention help.

We have watched as the cost of living continues to skyrocket, and the unemployment rate trends toward recession levels. I recently saw that a can of infant formula was \$60 in a grocery store in Beaverton. In my district, the average cost of a one-bedroom apartment is \$1,600¹. As the state of our economy becomes increasingly unstable as a result of tariffs, unsanctioned war, and unchecked corporate greed, it is cruel to cut funding from the most vulnerable among us. It is also fiscally irresponsible.

Eviction prevention services - that keep people on the brink of eviction in their homes - are far less expensive than responding to the increase in houselessness we will see as a result of this

¹ Average Rent in Beaverton, OR and Rent Price Trends. (2019). Zumper - Apartments for Rent & Houses.
<https://www.zumper.com/rent-research/beaverton-or>



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budget decision. We are saddling our next generation of taxpayers with the burden of responding to a housing crisis made worse by our short-sighted budget cuts.

We know that once a person loses housing, it costs exponentially more to get them off the streets and back into shelter than it would have cost to keep them housed in the first place, not to mention the added health expenditures directly tied to housing insecurity. This assistance is also frequently only needed one time, as a prevention measure. We are punishing our most vulnerable neighbors, veterans, domestic violence survivors, children, and the elderly with years of hardship. For this reason, I am a NO vote on HB 5011 A.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Farrah Chaichi".

Representative Farrah Chaichi
House District 35