



The 2016 legislative session resulted in important housing policies and significant additional resources to meet the growing housing needs of communities throughout our state. Thanks to the progress made this session, more Oregonians will have the chance to build better lives through stable and affordable housing. Here are the successes for housing opportunity in the 2016 session:

## **Protect renters**

- **Protect tenants from sudden rent increases.** New tenants will no longer face rent increases during the first year of tenancy, and tenants of over one year must receive 90 days' notice for rent increases. (HB 4143)

## **Preserve existing affordable housing**

- **\$2.5 million in lottery backed bonds to keep residents in place and maintain affordable rents** in housing with rent subsidies and manufactured home parks
- **Continued funding of \$2.73 million to help homeowners facing foreclosure** prepare for mediation through counseling and legal support
- **Provide certainty for affordable housing providers by removing the sunset on property tax exemptions** for non-profit owners of affordable housing until a long-term legislative solution is found (HB 4081)

## **Produce affordable housing**

- **Statutory guidelines for the Local Innovation and Fast Track housing program** passed so it can begin developing affordable housing as quickly as possible with the \$40 million appropriation received last year. (SB 1582)

## **Prevent and end homelessness**

- **\$10 million for the Emergency Housing Account and the State Homeless Assistance Program** to provide critical emergency housing assistance to keep families in their homes and help families experiencing homelessness move into stable housing.

## **The Housing Alliance also supported these successful legislative proposals:**

**Restore General Assistance:** Creates a General Assistance program to serve individuals with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness by providing them with financial and housing assistance and helping them apply for Social Security benefits. (HB 4042)

**Increase the Earned Income Tax Credit for families with young children:** Increases the state EITC from 8 to 11% of the federal credit for families with children under 3 years old. (HB 4110)

**Increase resources for veterans:** Puts to voters a ballot measure that would dedicate 1.5% of lottery revenues to veterans' issues. (HJR 202)

**Raise the minimum wage:** Raises the state minimum wage by geographic region over the next six years. (SB 1532).