

Director's Message



November 9, 2017

Dear Partners,

I am writing to you today requesting your attention and work to help preserve Private Activity Bonds in the recently introduced Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, H.R.1.

Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, H.R.1

Many of you are aware that the recently introduced Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, H.R. 1, proposes the elimination of Private Activity Bonds. These bonds are a critical resource for the development of affordable rental housing and the provision of homeownership opportunities for Oregonians. ***The elimination of Private Activity Bonds would effectively end the federal 4% Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program as well as the Oregon Residential Bond Loan program.***

The loss of the Private Activity Bond would threaten the development of more than 3,300 homes that are currently in the OHCS development pipeline as well as the future use of the 4% Low-Income Housing Tax Credit. Additionally, the Oregon legislature's historic investments into the Local Innovation and Fast Track (LIFT) housing program, now totaling \$120 million, would be jeopardized as a majority of LIFT developments are reliant upon the 4% LIHTC and Private Activity Bonds. These draconian cuts would impact hundreds of thousands of Oregon's most vulnerable community members.

Additionally, the Oregon Residential Bond Loan program is slated to provide financing to nearly 650 first-time homebuyers, totaling more than \$135 million in home loans, in 2017. Without Private Activity Bonds, working families seeking to realize the American Dream of homeownership would no longer have access to this powerful tool.

I urge each and every one of you to educate our [federal delegation](#) on the impacts that these cuts will have to vulnerable Oregonians and working families.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MSL", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Margaret Solle Salazar, Director

