

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION 13-10-29-05

IN THE MATTER OF ENDORSING THE
HOUSING AMERICA CAMPAIGN

WHEREAS, for more than 75 years it has been the policy of this nation, under the US Housing Act to promote the general welfare of the nation by employing its funds and credit to assist the several states and their political subdivisions to remedy the unsafe and unsanitary housing conditions and the acute shortage of decent, safe and sanitary dwellings for families of lower income; and

WHEREAS, according to the "State of the Nation's Housing" report, 20.6 million households now pay more than half of their income for housing, an increase of 2.7 million over a four year period; and

WHEREAS, according to current estimates, on any given night, there are more than 22,000 homeless people in Oregon and more than 633,000 homeless nationwide, and up to 3.5 million Americans experience homelessness at some point throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, 1,751 people, including 108 homeless families with children (347 people) and 229 homeless veterans, were counted in Lane County during the 2013 overnight homeless count; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Low-Income Housing Coalition's "Out of Reach" report, minimum wage earners are unable to afford even a one-bedroom home anywhere in the country, and 57% of renters in cities live in areas where the fair market rent for a two-bedroom rental is not affordable even with two minimum wage jobs; and

WHEREAS, public housing, which is home to over 2 million people (almost 40 percent of whom are children), faces an estimated \$26 billion backlog in capital repairs; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials; American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; Council of Large Public Housing Authorities; Enterprise Community Partners; Habitat for Humanity International, Mortgage Bankers Association; National Association of Counties; National Association of Home Builders; National Association of Realtors; National Council of State Housing Agencies; National League of Cities; National Leased Housing Association; National Low-Income Housing Coalition; Public Housing Authorities Directors Association; and U.S. Conference of Mayors are united in an effort to raise public awareness of the importance of affordable housing and community development programs and resources; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned groups have declared October Housing America Month, part of a year-long, national campaign to inform the public and decision makers of the critical need to address the nation's housing and community development concerns.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Lane County **RESOLVES** that Lane County, Oregon, which has, over a period of many years, endeavored to address affordable housing and community development needs and has been successful in doing so using a combination of local, state and federal resources, hereby endorses the Housing America Campaign and in doing so recommits itself to meeting the affordable housing and community development needs of the community.

RESOLVED this 29TH day of October, 2013.



Sid Leiken, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners