

OREGON SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER PRESS RELEASE

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Leader Bonham Condemns State-Sponsored Down Payment Assistance for Non-Citizens Amid Housing Crisis

SALEM, Ore. – Senate Republican Leader Daniel Bonham (R-The Dalles) is appalled by the <u>revelation</u> that taxpayer dollars are being used to provide down payment assistance to non-citizens through Hacienda Community Development's program. This move is particularly troubling given the severe housing crisis affecting many Oregonians.

"It is deeply troubling that while countless Oregonians are struggling to afford homes or even find affordable rental options, their tax dollars are being redirected to help noncitizens with down payments," said **Leader Bonham**. "This program highlights a failure to prioritize the urgent housing needs of our own residents."

Oregon's housing crisis has left many families priced out of the market, underscoring the need for policies that focus on supporting local residents. "Our policies should reflect a commitment to those who have made Oregon their home and are working hard to make ends meet," **Leader Bonham** added.

Senator Kim Thatcher (R-Keizer) noted, "Senate Republicans unanimously opposed <u>SB 1579</u> in the 2022 session because we foresaw the negative consequences of such measures. Our focus should remain on addressing the needs of Oregon's citizens, not extending benefits to non-citizens while our residents continue to struggle."

Leader Bonham is calling for an immediate review of this program and a redirection of resources to tackle the housing crisis affecting Oregon residents.

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