

## Project Turnkey Act

*Endorsing Organizations: National Low Income Housing Coalition, National Alliance to End Homelessness, National Consumer Law Center (on behalf of its low-income clients), National Leased Housing Association, Local Initiatives Support Corporation, National NeighborWorks Association, National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders, National Coalition for the Homeless, LeadingAge, SchoolHouse Connection, Housing Assistance Council, National Network for Youth, Justice in Aging, Community Change Action, First Focus Campaign for Children, National Rural Housing Coalition, Council of Large Public Housing Authorities, National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, National Women's Law Center, Community Opportunity Alliance, National Homelessness Law Center, and Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)*

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The housing crisis affects every community in Oregon and across the country. The shortage of affordable housing is forcing many people out of their homes and contributing to the increasing number of people experiencing homelessness. Greater federal investments in housing are long overdue, and many existing federal programs are bogged down in outdated models that often take years to implement and are too slow to address pressing needs like expanding shelter capacity, providing rent and utility bill assistance, and building more housing.

Through the American Rescue Plan, President Biden and Congress have supported resources for rapid, flexible housing programs like Oregon's successful Project Turnkey Program. Project Turnkey and its focus on quickly converting unused buildings into non-congregate shelters can be a national model for revitalizing downtowns and quickly building much needed affordable housing units. As evaluated by the National Alliance to End Homelessness, [Project Turnkey](#) is an important success story for meeting shelter bed needs. Housing experts like the [Urban Institute](#) are continuing to highlight how one of the lessons learned from the pandemic is the value of flexible federal housing funding to further support innovative solutions like Project Turnkey.

Congresswoman Bonamici is building on this important Oregon success by leading the **Project Turnkey Act**. The legislation will establish a federal Project Turnkey, which will be one of the most flexible sources of federal housing assistance. This program will:

- Provide \$1 billion annually for a Project Turnkey Program at the Department of Housing and Urban Development; and
- Support grantees to:
  - Expand programs to convert vacant buildings, including hotels, offices, hospitals, and other properties, into affordable housing and emergency shelters
  - Provide direct support to people at risk of experiencing homelessness through rental, security deposit, and utility bill assistance;
  - Promote homeownership with downpayment assistance and housing counseling;
  - Repair and expand emergency shelters to provide people experiencing homelessness safe places to transition from the street; and
  - Reduce costs of providing supportive housing and homelessness prevention services.

The Project Turnkey Act is an important investment to rapidly address the housing crisis and support people experiencing homelessness in our communities. As Co-Chair of the Congressional Caucus on Homelessness, Congresswoman Bonamici is working to meet the basic need of helping everyone secure housing.