

**THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF KING**

**RESOLUTION No. 5494**

**ENCOURAGING THE STATE TO RAISE REVENUE TO PROTECT  
AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND HUMAN SERVICE PROGRAMS**

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**WHEREAS**, our vision is a Washington State where everyone has the opportunity to live in a safe, healthy, affordable home in a thriving community; and

**WHEREAS**, on any given night, more than 18,000 people are homeless in Washington State; and

**WHEREAS**, the Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction reported that during the 2012 – 13 school year, 30,609 students in Washington schools were identified as homeless; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 165,000 extremely low-income households in Washington are spending more than half their income on housing costs alone, making it difficult to afford basic necessities like food and medicine and leaving those households very vulnerable to falling into homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a statewide deficit of 247,202 units that are affordable and available to households earning 30% or below of Median Family Income; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to afford the Fair Market Rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Washington State of \$970, a person would need to either earn \$18.65 an hour or work 80 hours per week, 52 weeks per year if earning the state minimum wage; and

**WHEREAS**, ending homelessness requires a significant shift in the priorities of government, which will only happen if the public demands it; and

**WHEREAS**, increasing access to safe, healthy, affordable housing is a key strategy for improving educational outcomes for students; and

**WHEREAS**, increasing access to safe, healthy, affordable housing is a key strategy for improving health outcomes throughout Washington State; and

**WHEREAS**, creating and preserving affordable homes near transit is a key strategy for ensuring that Washington's transit investments and growth are both equitable for communities and are successful in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and protecting the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, state investments in affordable housing are Washington's best tool for ensuring access to safe, healthy, and affordable housing, while additionally creating jobs and generating new state and local tax revenues; and

**WHEREAS**, all-cuts budgets have taken an extreme toll on families and communities by reducing and eliminating vital safety net programs; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF KING, THAT;**

Our organization encourages the Governor and the Legislature to raise revenue so that it is possible to make needed investments in affordable housing and to rebuild investments in human services and housing options that have been lost since the beginning of the Great Recession while still meeting the state's other obligations.

**ADOPTED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF KING THIS 15TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2014.**

**THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE  
COUNTY OF KING, WASHINGTON**



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**STEPHEN NORMAN**  
Secretary



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**DOUGLAS J. BARNES**, Chair  
Board of Commissioners