



Oregon
Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor



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For Immediate Release

July 19, 2010

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Oregon Housing and Community Services Director Victor Merced has appointed Michael Kaplan as Oregon Homeownership Stabilization Initiative Division Administrator.

The Oregon Homeownership Stabilization Initiative is the program Oregon designed to disburse \$88 million in Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) funds, which it will receive for foreclosure prevention activities. Oregon was one of five states chosen to receive the second round of the funds because of its high rate of unemployment.

Kaplan will oversee the creation and implementation of the program, serving as Oregon's in-house administrator.

"Michael has a proven track record for understanding complex programs and implementing solutions," said Merced. "His can-do approach is what we need to meet the ambitious goals of the program."

Most recently, Kaplan served as the lead on the proposal development, writing the OHCS description of how it will administer the \$88 million.

Kaplan brings to the position experience in policy development and analysis with the Governor's Economic Recovery Team, where he reviewed, analyzed and managed complex issues related to Oregon's implementation of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) programs. In particular, Kaplan was instrumental in developing Oregon's ARRA reporting system.

Kaplan also served as Program Manager in the Governor's office and as Policy and Budget Analyst in the Department of Administrative Services Budget and Management Division.

Kaplan will assume his new responsibilities at OHCS on July 26, 2010.