



Oregon  
Environmental  
Council  
It's Your Oregon

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**Testimony to the Senate Human Services and Early Childhood Committee on  
HB 2564  
Angela Crowley-Koch, Legislative Director**

**May 19, 2015**

Founded in 1968, the Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization. We advance innovative, collaborative solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

**OEC supports lifting the ban on inclusionary zoning**

Too many Oregonians struggle to find attainable housing in healthy neighborhoods. Inclusionary zoning (IZ) allows local governments to help create vibrant communities with housing options for everyone. Oregon and Texas are the only states with an IZ ban on the books. It's time we changed that.

By repealing the ban, this bill will restore local control over housing tools. Cities and towns across Oregon are failing to provide adequate levels of attainable housing for residents. Areas wanting to address the issue should have every option available to them.

Having attainable housing options helps to create livable communities. More housing options available allows some to shorten their commute, which means less traffic. Less traffic reduces air pollution, making Oregon a healthier place to live.

**Oregon Environmental Council supports lifting the ban on inclusionary zoning because we believe that all Oregonians have a right to a healthy, safe home.**