

2016-01-30

Chair Gelser and members of the committee:

I am S Daly of [organization-193] from Portland, OR. I am writing to ask you to support allowing cities to use inclusionary zoning as a local housing solution.

I'm a state employee and started about ten months ago having moved from the private sector.

I started at Admin Asst 1 Step 2 pay and let me tell you this was a decrease in pay. But I made this move because I wanted to support the states work to do good things.

Housing affordability is so out of balance right now that a gainfully employed state worker like myself cannot afford to live in Portland, Oregon.

I think when we talk about affordable housing we need to speak about affordable housing for gainfully employed not just for those within a percentage of the poverty level.

I consider myself to be middle class and I am being priced out. The state wont pay better for its step salary system and the state also ties the hands of cities and does not allow them tools to address this crisis.

What happens when state workers, firefighters, police and others cannot afford to live in Portland?

You need to act now!

Inclusionary zoning can help increase housing opportunity by providing cities with an important tool to create more affordable units and diverse communities.

We must act now to increase the number of affordable units, and inclusionary zoning is an important local solution that Oregon should allow. I hope that you will support these measures, and I thank you for your service.

Sincerely,  
S Daly