

Chair Gelser and members of the committee:

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

I also cycle the Springwater Trail regularly and talk to the ever-increasing houseless population there. Originally, these were small groups of mainly addicted and mentally ill men. Now, I am seeing so many families, women, children, people with learning disabilities, and more, added to these numbers. They live in a place where running water, sewer, and even more importantly SAFETY, are completely absent. Many I speak to are working at least part time, but can't afford a deposit. They instead are victimized by regular sweeps that have deprived them of their few possessions (did you know that an ID is required to get your possessions back after a sweep? What if those were taken in the sweep or stolen earlier?). We need housing that offers families the opportunity to get back on their feet, to offer a future for their children, and to keep our country from becoming the 3rd world.

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,
Bud Feuleless