

Chair Gelser and members of the committee:

I am Dona Marie Hippert from Portland. I am writing to ask you to support allowing cities to use inclusionary zoning as a local housing solution.

I am a solo practice attorney with a focus on elder law and consumer law. Through my work with Legal Aid Service of Oregon's Senior Law Project, I have encountered senior citizens faced with the prospect of homelessness when a complex-wide rent increase is instituted and there is no affordable option available. No decent, civilized society discards its elderly and vulnerable citizens in this manner. Please act to remedy this serious situation.

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,
Dona Marie Hippert