



Oregon  
Environmental  
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It's Your Oregon

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**Testimony to the Senate Human Services and Early Childhood Committee on  
SB 1533**

**Angela Crowley-Koch, Legislative Director**

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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 SB 1533: Lift the ban on inclusionary zoning – Expand housing options for all Oregonians**

Across the state, too many Oregonians struggle to find housing they can afford in safe and healthy neighborhoods. We support SB 1533 because cities and counties in Oregon need access to proven tools to help provide families and workers with housing options that are affordable.

Inclusionary zoning (IZ) is a basic tool used by local governments across the United States to help create vibrant communities with housing options for everyone. Unfortunately, IZ is not a tool that is available in Oregon due to a statewide ban established in 1999. Oregon and Texas are the only states with an IZ ban on the books. It's time we changed that.

By repealing the ban, the Oregon legislature is taking a concrete step in response to our statewide housing crisis.

Having housing options for middle and lower income families helps to create livable communities and promotes social equity. More housing options near public transit and active transportation infrastructure also means shorter commutes, less traffic and less pollution. These options make Oregon a healthier place to live and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Oregon Environmental Council is part of a coalition of labor, social justice, and housing groups and communities around Oregon that support for lifting the ban on inclusionary zoning.

**We believe that all Oregonians have the right to a safe, healthy, and affordable home.**