



February 1, 2016

Dear Chair Gelser and Members of the Human Services and Early Childhood Committee:

ROSE Community Development connects our community to build good homes, healthy families and neighborhood opportunities in outer southeast Portland. We have been witnessing first hand some of the impacts of our housing crisis in this area. Nearly all the waitlists for our housing have been closed due to overwhelming demand for over a year. There is simply not enough housing that is affordable for Oregonians.

We know that a stable, safe place to call home is the key to success. We know the policy and resource strategies that can put us back on track to meeting the housing needs of the most vulnerable Oregonians.

We urge you to take bold action this session for housing opportunity, including immediate adoption of SB 1533. In addition to lifting the ban on Inclusionary Zoning and enacting emergency renter protection, we also urge the Legislature to invest in housing development, preservation, and homelessness prevention.

Support for SB 1533 is diverse and statewide: 49 organizations including labor, environment, social justice, housing groups and cities across Oregon are united. It's time to restore to local governments the option of using this proven tool to address local housing needs.

SB 1533 includes reasonable sideboards negotiated with home builders, like a limitation (ceiling) on housing that is set aside as well as a menu of incentives and benefits.

IZ is a basic planning tool used in 500 jurisdictions across the country to ensure new developments include workforce housing options for low and moderate income households. This tool can be used by cities and counties as one important tool to address local housing problems using local solutions.

Thank you very much for your consideration of SB 1533, and for all your work on behalf of Oregonians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick Sauvie". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Nick Sauvie

Executive Director