

**Testimony of Randy Tucker
In Support of Senate Bill 1533
Senate Committee on Human Services and Early Childhood
February 1, 2016**



Chair Gelser and Members of the Committee:

As you know, Metro is the regional government of the Portland metropolitan area. We provide a broad range of public services including land use and transportation planning, solid waste and recycling operations, management of parks and natural areas, and operation of major visitor facilities like the Oregon Convention Center and the Oregon Zoo.

The Metro Council supports SB 1533. In addition to generally opposing pre-emptions that restrict local authority to address local issues, Metro has long supported efforts to ensure that housing choices are available to people of all incomes in every community in our region. We believe inclusionary zoning is one important tool that can help local governments to achieve this goal.

We know from other cities that inclusionary zoning can contribute to the creation of thousands of units of affordable housing. Metro's Equitable Housing program is working with our cities and counties now to help build capacity and bring more resources to assist them with addressing the challenges of providing a wide range of housing for the people who live in our communities.

The problem of affordable, safe, quality housing for our region's diverse residents is a growing problem, yet resources to address this problem are inadequate. Inclusionary zoning is one critical policy lever that can help us ensure that housing is available for those who need it.

The Metro Council urges you to support SB 1533.