

Kate Brown
Governor



Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office
"Advocating Equality and Diversity"
1819 SW 5th Ave., Portland, OR 97201
O 503.302.9725/F 503.473.8519
Email: oco.mail@oregon.gov

Testimony in Support of SB 1533A
February 22, 2016, Hearing Room A, 8:30 pm
Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue

Chair Hass, Vice Chair Boquist and Senators Baertschiger, Edwards and Riley:

The Oregon Advocacy Commissions share a long standing interest with the communities of color and women across Oregon in the foundation of all personal and family success: affordable housing. Community leaders need tools to help them work with their local housing industry to assure that all their citizens can afford to live in the neighborhoods of their hometowns.

This bill seeks to provide the needed tools to city officials across Oregon for inclusionary zoning including multifamily units, allowing such units to be for sale or rental and within reach of individuals and families of modest means. It also requires local government to offer incentives for development of inclusionary zoning units, which we believe fosters the kind of flexibility and collaborative work with developers needed to create affordable units in a broad spectrum of neighborhoods.

While there is more to be done in Oregon to improve access to affordable housing, we believe that SB 1533A is a step in the right direction and encourage your positive consideration.

Sincerely,

Mari Watanabi,
Chair, OCAPIA

James Manning
Chair, OCBA

Alberto Moreno
Chair, OCHA

Dr. Barbara Spencer
Chair, OCFW

OR Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs

Mari Watanabe, Chair
David Yuen Tam, Vice Chair
Legislative Liaisons:
Sen. Michael Dembrow
Rep. Gene Whisnant

OR Commission on Black Affairs

James I. Manning Jr., Chair
James Morris, Vice Chair
Legislative Liaisons:
Sen. Rod Monroe
Rep. Lew Frederick

OR Commission on Hispanic Affairs

Alberto Moreno, Chair
John Haroldson, Vice Chair
Legislative Liaisons:
Sen. Chip Shields
Rep. Jessica Vega Pederson

OR Commission for Women

Dr. Barbara Spencer, Chair
Jessica Rodriguez-Montegna,
Vice Chair
Legislative Liaisons:
Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson
Rep. Betty Komp

Staff

Lucy Baker, Administrator
Nancy Kramer, Executive Assistant
Ty Schwoeffermann, Policy Analyst