

ASSOCIATION OF OREGON COUNTIES SUPPORTS SB 1533A

The lack of affordable housing is a problem that touches every county in Oregon. County commissioners and judges need tools to help address the specific problems related to their counties. The Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) supports SB 1533A, which provides several of those tools.

AOC appreciates the permissive nature of the “inclusionary zoning” portion of the bill. Although most housing developments occur within cities, those counties able to take advantage of the inclusionary zoning tool look forward to working with developers to help provide more affordable housing for citizens in need.

Similarly, AOC supports the ability of its member counties to impose a construction tax if they so desire. This will help relieve the financial burden of providing incentives to developers.

AOC understands that these tools may not work in every county. However, providing counties with options for implementing solutions that fit their communities will allow local jurisdictions to address such issues as affordable, available, and workforce housing.

As the availability of buildable land shrinks and the housing stock declines, this crisis will continue to worsen. We need to find as many solutions as possible. SB 1533A is a step in the right direction.

AOC respectfully requests your support of SB 1533A.

For more information, contact Mary Stern at mstern@oregoncounties.org or 503-585-8351.

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