

March 28, 2017

House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources Oregon State Capital 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

Testimony in support of HB 3012 – Allowing Historic Homes in Rural Residential Zones as ADU

On behalf of the statewide membership of Restore Oregon, I am writing to endorse and encourage passage of HB 3012 which would allow the construction of a new single-family dwelling on a parcel of land zoned for rural residential use, if an existing historic home is present on the site and converted into an accessory dwelling unit (ADU).

Restore Oregon is a non-profit organization that works statewide to preserve, reuse, and pass forward the historic places that make Oregon, OREGON. We have seen many instances in which an important historic home – sometimes dating back to the Pioneer Era – is demolished because rural zoning allows only one home per lot.

We appreciate the need to protect rural land use. The state also needs to protect the unique and important heritage embodied in its historic homes and buildings dotted across the rural landscape. Allowing property owners to build a modern house and retain their historic house as an ADU – so long as they don't sub-divide the property – would support both goals.

It's a Win-Win. Please vote YES on HB 3012.

Sincerely,

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Peggy Moretti Executive Director

Cc: Rep. Lininger; Rep. Meek; Rep Stark