

4 April 2017

House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources  
Oregon State Legislature

Re: **Support of HB 2937**

To the Honorable Brian Clem,

I am writing this letter (with copies to each member of the committee) **in support of HB 2937** which would allow an **accessory dwelling unit** (ADU) on lands which are currently zoned Rural Residential Farm Forest (RRFF).

Our family recently purchased a home on several acres in Tualatin with the express idea of building a small “grandma/grandpa” house adjacent to the main house. We want to be near our grandchildren as they grow up and close to our daughter and son-in-law as we age. The current law will only allow a guest house with no kitchen. That will not do! Grandmas must bake cookies!

I have been following this bill with keen interest and noted that, during the public comment period when the bill was in the committee of Human Services and Housing, there were some objections from growers who claimed that allowing an ADU would impact their farming practices. As someone with a degree in agricultural biology who worked in the field as a pest control advisor before becoming a science teacher, I would strenuously challenge this premise! The ADU is a single, small home located close to the primary dwelling. It is not a development encompassing a large portion of the land. I would respectfully submit that if a farmer is worried about additional notifications or spray drift based on this then their current practices are probably not in compliance anyway!

Again, I urge you to pass this bill on with a “yes” recommendation. Let’s allow families to remain together.

Thank you,  
DL Johnson  
21988 SW Stafford Rd  
Tualatin

cc: Committee members McLain, Sprenger, Barreto, Esquivel, McKeown, Power, Brock Smith, Witt