



May 5th, 2017

Senate Human Services Committee

PROTECTING YOUR
RIGHT TO ROAM

Re: Please support HB 2004A

Senator Courtney, Chair Gelser, and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services,

Oregon Walks is the state's pedestrian advocacy organization. We work to make walking a safe, convenient, and accessible transportation option in every community, for every Oregonian.

Because every person is a pedestrian at some point during the day, we focus on the needs and barriers for:

- communities most impacted by a historic lack of investment,
- those most likely to walk out of necessity (affordability, legal ability, or physical capacity),
- those who experience other disparities when it comes to transportation, such as fear of deportation or physical violence.

All of the communities that we focus on are extremely impacted by displacement and housing uncertainty. For youth, older adults, low-income communities, people with disabilities, and communities of color - housing affordability and displacement is directly affecting the ability to stay in the place that they call home, and are consistently displaced to neighborhoods without accessible or safe walking environments.

We support avenues to make neighborhoods more affordable, curb displacement, and ensure that every family has safe spaces to walk in the place they call home. HB 2004A does just that and we urge you to support this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Noel Mickelberry".

Noel Mickelberry
Executive Director