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18 May 2017

Senator Lee Beyer
Senator Fred Girod
Senator Rod Monroe
Senator Chuck Riley

Senators:

I want to speak to the upcoming consideration of HB-2737(-2) regarding a Tiny House Code for the State of Oregon. I am aware of the concerns Mr. Mark Long has regarding the safety issues surrounding tiny houses. However, I believe he is making the issue much larger than it really is. And while I understand the underlying concept of having the Building Codes Division write Code and not the Legislature, in this instance, I believe the need is such that we cannot wait for the normal Code cycle and the BCD to possibly act. That cycle could be several years out and the need and the demand is here today.

The advantage we have before us as a State is a Nationally-adopted Code that was well-vetted and considered and included in the International Code Council 2018 International Residential Code, which is the basis we use for the Oregon Residential Specialty Code.

The other advantage we have is that by actually regulating tiny home construction, we will be reducing the number of non-compliant tiny houses through establishing a method to regulate them that currently does not exist.

The ICC language received the 2/3 majority vote needed to meet national approval. This voting was from Building Officials, Fire Marshals and other knowledgeable professionals in the building community.

Oregon does not need to reinvent the wheel in this instance. We can simply take a well-considered and well-written national Code and implement it immediately in Oregon.

I urge you to do so.

Sincerely,



williamRANDALL
architect/leed ap bd+c/csba/senior principal

