

Senate Committee on Business & Transportation
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

May 22, 2017

RE: Opposition to House Bill 2737A as Drafted

Good Afternoon Chair Beyer and Members of the Committee:



The Oregon Building Officials Association (OBOA) represents more than 1,000 building officials and personnel throughout the state. Its members include a wide range of building officials, both in large, metropolitan cities and counties, as well as small, rural jurisdictions.

As you know, Oregon has a statewide building code, adopted by the State Building Codes Division, which establishes uniform safety and energy standards for all residential and commercial buildings throughout the state. In most jurisdictions, the statewide code is administered and enforced by local city or county building departments. In jurisdictions where neither a city, nor a county assume these responsibilities, the State Building Codes Division must do so.

House Bill 2737A would prescribe building codes that must be adopted by the Department of Consumer and Business Service (DCBS) as it relates to pre-fabricated and site-built homes under 400 square feet. We have concerns with the current version of House Bill 2737A as it relates to the manner by which the process is occurring. As noted above, Oregon has a statewide building code that is adopted by the State Building Codes Division and it is through that well established and collaborative process that we believe this discussion should take place and ultimately where and how the code should be adopted.

It is our belief that the -A3 amendments would not only direct DCBS to adopt necessary codes that specifically speak to key components that need to be addressed as we've heard thus far, but they would also ensure that the code adoption runs through our currently established process. In adopting these codes, it would be the hope of OBOA that all of the key stakeholders would be intricately involved in that process and all parties could continue to work towards a solution that best suits everyone affected. **It is for those reasons that we would support the -A3 amendments.**

Thank you for your time and consideration of the -A3 amendments to House Bill 2737A.

Respectfully,

Eric Schmidt, SE CBO
Chair, Legislative Committee
Oregon Building Officials Association
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