



# HOUSING ALLIANCE

May 22, 2017

Senate Committee on Business and Economic Development  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Testimony in support of HB 2737A

Dear Chair Beyer, Vice-Chair Thompsen, and members of the Committee:

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Oregon Housing Alliance to express our support for HB 2737A, which would modify building code requirements to facilitate the construction of tiny houses. The Housing Alliance is a coalition of more than 80 organizations from all parts of the state. Our members have come together with the knowledge that housing opportunity is the foundation on which all of our success is built – individual success as students, parents, workers, and community members as well as the success of our communities. We represent a diverse set of voices, including residents, local jurisdictions, non-profit housing developers and organizations working to meet basic needs in every corner of our state.

Every Oregonian should have a decent home where they can live safely and securely. Every night, thousands of Oregonians across the state have no shelter at all, facing serious risks to their safety. Thousands more are unstably housed or staying in emergency shelters. Our state must identify a range of solutions to help create decent, permanent housing for people. Tiny houses are one way to provide quality housing that gives their residents a safe, warm, and dry place to call home.

Current building codes make it challenging to build tiny homes. HB 2737A modifies building code provisions related to sleeping lofts in very small houses, making their design more feasible while ensuring the safety of occupants. The International Code Council (ICC), who produces the primary building code that Oregon follows, has extensively vetted these code modifications and adopted the corresponding amendments to the international code. Efforts in a legislative workgroup have resulted in a bill that conforms with all other aspects of the building code to ensure safe, quality housing.

We respectfully urge the Committee to support HB 2737A to give Oregonians another housing option that maintains quality and safety standards that will help to meet Oregon's urgent housing needs. Thank you for your consideration of this bill and your service to our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alison McIntosh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alison McIntosh  
On behalf of the Oregon Housing Alliance

## Housing Alliance Members

1000 Friends  
211info  
A Community Together (Lane County)  
Aging in the Gorge  
Benton County Health Department  
Benton Habitat for Humanity  
Bienestar  
Bradley Angle  
CASA of Oregon  
Central City Concern  
Church Women United of Lane County  
City of Beaverton  
City of Eugene  
City of Hillsboro  
City of Portland  
City of Tigard  
Clackamas County  
Coalition of Community Health Clinics  
Coalition of Housing Advocates  
Common Ground OR-WA  
Community Action Partnership of Oregon  
Community Alliance of Tenants  
Community Energy Project  
Community Housing Fund  
Community Partners for Affordable Housing  
Community Vision  
Cornerstone Community Housing  
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon  
Enterprise Community Partners  
Evolve Property Management  
Fair Housing Council of Oregon  
Farmworker Housing Development Corp.  
FOOD for Lane County  
Habitat for Humanity of Lincoln County  
Habitat for Humanity of Oregon  
Habitat for Humanity Portland/Metro East  
Hacienda CDC  
Housing Authority of Clackamas County  
Housing Development Center  
Human Solutions  
Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization  
Impact Northwest

JOIN  
Lane County Health and Human Services  
League of Women Voters of Oregon  
Lincoln County  
Mainstream Housing, Inc.  
Metro  
Momentum Alliance  
NAYA Family Center  
Neighborhood Economic Development Corp.  
Neighborhood Partnerships  
NeighborImpact  
NeighborWorks Umpqua  
Network for Oregon Affordable Housing  
Nightingale Public Advocacy Project  
Northwest Housing Alternatives  
Northwest Pilot Project  
Oregon AFSCME Council 75  
Oregon Center for Christian Voices  
Oregon Center for Public Policy  
Oregon Coalition on Housing & Homelessness  
Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Oregon Food Bank  
Oregon Housing Authorities  
Oregon Opportunity Network  
Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon  
Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives  
Portland Homeless Family Solutions  
Portland Tenants United  
Proud Ground  
Raphael House  
REACH CDC  
St. Vincent de Paul of Lane County, Inc.  
ShelterCare  
Sisters Habitat for Humanity  
Sponsors, Inc.  
SquareOne Villages  
Street Roots  
Transition Projects  
Urban League of Portland  
Washington County  
Welcome Home Coalition  
Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services