

To: The Natural Resources Subcommittee of the Joint Ways & Means Committee
jwmnr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

Dear Representative Power: My name is Chris Blattner, and I am writing you today to voice my support for HB2007A-6.

I am supportive of this bill because Oregonians desperately need more housing, and costs are rising because there are not enough homes to go around. This bill helps achieve that goal in a number of ways, including:

- Fast tracking affordable housing building permits
- Streamlining local government procedures to make it easier to provide more housing, and especially affordable housing
- Allowing additional dwelling units (ADUs) and duplexes in single-family neighborhoods.
- Allowing religious institutions to use their property to develop affordable housing.
- Introducing higher levels of transparency in the historic designation process and closing loopholes that circumvent public participation.

I support providing housing options for Oregonians of all incomes in connected communities, where people have access to their work, school, healthcare, public amenities, and transit. In particular, legalizing ADUs and duplexes in some fashion in our neighborhoods is a great way to add smaller, discreet homes in a way that is compatible with existing neighborhoods. HB 2007 takes significant steps to help meet Oregon's housing challenges while ensuring people have access to opportunity in connected communities.

As an Eastmoreland resident, I fully support this bill's disconnecting a National Historic District designation from automatically applying restrictions, instead requiring a local public process to do so. The unreasonable negative owner-consent requirement presently in place in Oregon for National HDs is undemocratic and unfair – this loophole, unique to our state, should be closed.

Thank you for your support of this much-needed bill.

Regards,

Chris Blattner
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