

**From:** Jan Mawson  
**To:** [JWMNR Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony HB 2007  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2017 8:09:30 PM

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June 20, 2017

To: Joint Subcommittee on Natural Resources  
Re: HB 2007 Testimony

I would like to submit as my testimony a letter I sent to my elected Representative regarding this proposed bill:

Dear Representative Williamson,

When you were first elected you came to my door asking for my vote which you received.

For the first time I am taking the opportunity to let you know that I feel House Bill 2007 is one of the most, if not the most important, bills to come out of Salem in my lifetime.

I am adamantly opposed to this bill as it is currently written. While there is a need for more affordable housing, this bill will not succeed in accomplishing that goal. Instead it will result in more demolitions of affordable homes, and displacement of seniors, the poor, minorities, young people just starting out in life and those in the middle class who cannot afford to pay the high prices for new construction in Portland.

Please vote against it or change it as follows:

Limit the bill to affordable housing using the HUD definition. Eliminate references to market rate, needed housing and historic districts.

Appropriate density in my opinion should be achieved through ADUs and internal conversions which preserve neighborhood cohesiveness and community--values that contribute to safety and quality of life. Zoning is important not only to homeowners who are making one of life's most expensive and significant investments, but to all living in communities throughout the city and state.

The strongest argument against this bill is what what has already taken place in Portland. Our city is being torn down around us and violence has increased to an unprecedented level. I hear from my friends and relatives that they do not want to go downtown anymore. Citizens I talk with are beyond discouraged with the social experiment/development takeover of the place we call home, not to mention the loss of our natural "green" environment sacrificed to this cause.

I can no longer in good conscience support 1000 Friends of Oregon (a name which has become another misleading slogan).

Sincerely,  
Jan Mawson  
7623 SW 33rd Avenue  
Portland, Oregon

All my adult life I have lived in urban walkable neighborhoods that evolved organically and reflect the values and yes, character (architectural appearance, history and quality of life) of their occupants. This is what makes them livable and special. If your only goal is to house everyone who wants to move or invest here (not realistically possible or desirable) be prepared to lose the unique appeal of our cities and communities. I urge you to examine the financial motives of those who are aggressively advocating for this bill. And above all listen to the voices of the voters you represent.

Sent from my iPad