



Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives Inc.

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Subject: Testimony in Support of House Bill 2007A with Amendments

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislative Assembly,

I am pleased, as the Executive Director of Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives (PCRI) to submit testimony to the committee in support of HB2007, specifically with -6 amendments. For over 20 years PCRI has stood for providing affordable, stable homes for the community. We currently have over 700 affordable homes dispersed throughout North/Northeast Portland. This includes a mix of housing types - single family homes, duplexes and other small-plexes, and multifamily communities.

We support 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:

- Prioritizing 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, and
- Introducing higher levels of transparency in the historic designation process and closing loopholes that circumvent public participation.

PCRI supports 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 – something PCRI has firsthand experience in. This has allowed PCRI to meet the diverse needs of the people we serve – from families, to the elderly and beyond. Housing choices that fall between single family homes and apartments can also help address the historical inequities of access to self-sufficiency by providing homeownership opportunities. HB 2007 takes significant steps to help meet Oregon's housing challenges while ensuring people have access to opportunity in connected communities. Thank you for your support of this much-needed bill.

Sincerely,


Maxine Fitzpatrick
Executive Director



“Meeting the affordable housing needs of the community”