



Hello,

I am pleased, as the Executive Director of Proud Ground, to submit testimony to the committee in support of HB2007, specifically with -6 amendments.

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.

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.

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

Diane Linn
Executive Director, Proud Ground

Dreams Start Here.