

**From:** Evan Heidtmann  
**To:** [JWMNR Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of HB2007  
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I'm a lifelong Portlander and Oregonian and I'm writing today to share my support for HB2007.

The bill, particularly with the "-6" amendments, is a reasonable way to allow more housing where it's needed and reduce the abuse of "historic districts" as tools of exclusion.

We need more housing options throughout Oregon -- a shortage of housing units in high-opportunity areas is leading to sky-high prices. Young families are being denied the opportunity to own a home. More people have had to move far away from their jobs.

These ills may be reduced by allowing more diverse types of housing in places where people want to live. HB2007 moves things in this direction, which is great.

This bill also prevents a small group of wealthy landowners from abusing the National Park Service's historic designation to prevent other less-wealthy people from living in their neighborhood. This is not theoretical -- it's happened in multiple neighborhoods in Portland. In areas very close to transit, close to jobs, and close to schools, the wealthiest land owners have chosen to exclude smaller and less expensive housing.

In a national climate of disturbing nativism, the richest shouldn't be able to sidestep local policy to draw a moat around their castle. We need to be welcoming everyone into every neighborhood, and abusive historic districts are just the opposite.

By placing some common-sense limits on this historic designation for new districts, HB2007 will reduce abuse and make truly historic districts more meaningful.

Thanks for supporting this bill.

Thanks,  
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