

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

Re: Letter of Support

June 21, 2017

My name is Julie Baines. I am writing on behalf of me and my husband. We want to let you know that we support HB2007A-6. Oregonians desperately need more housing that is affordable and not a long way from where they work.

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 fully support this disconnection of the 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.

People fear change but we can't let folks hide behind an honorary designation that was never intended to stop entire cities from progressing forward.

Thank you for your service and let me know if you need anything else from us.

Julie and Wallace Baines
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