



CITY OF ROGUE RIVER

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2/8/2018

House Committee on Business and Labor
900 Court Street
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Holvey and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding HB 4086 as it relates to Building Codes and issues that directly affect our City.

I cannot support HB 4086 in its current form.

As a small jurisdiction, we rely on the expertise of certified inspectors and plans examiners to provide efficient professional services to our citizens. We do this through a model that is outlined in state law and allows us to utilize contracted building department services on the frequency and to the extent that our community needs those services. This allows us to keep permit fees low and promotes growth. Requiring that a Building Official be an employee of a jurisdiction could have serious unintended consequences resulting in construction slowdowns and impacting what is already the biggest housing crisis in Oregon's history.

I believe that the bill can be amended to allow our small cities to contract with properly licensed and certified inspectors or companies. I would ask that this bill be sent back to a work group and more consideration be given to the impact on our cities and our citizens.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam VanArsdale, Mayor
City of Rogue River

