February 11, 2019

House Committee on Human Services and Housing State Capitol Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 2001

Dear Chair Allisa Keny-Guyer and Committee members:

Please vote yes on HB 2001.

I have lived in Oregon for 43 years and formerly served on both the McMinnville and Newberg Urban Area Management Commissions. I watched my parents and my in-laws age and downsize. I've seen our daughter and her friends struggle to find places to live that they could afford in neighborhoods that lacked enough housing choices. I know first-hand the importance of healthy neighborhoods where people of varying incomes, ages, and household sizes can live together in a wide range of housing types.

Most of the area in most of our smaller cities is zoned for single-family residential lots. All too often this is exclusionary zoning. This sort of development creates large geographical areas where people with moderate incomes cannot afford to live. Requiring cities to allow a greater mix of housing on these lots is simple common sense.

In addition to increasing housing affordability within neighborhoods, the greater choice in housing-types allows older people to downsize in their own neighborhood or move near their children, while maintaining an independent household. Duplexes, triplexes, and quadplexes can increase home ownership by allowing younger households to use the rent to offset mortgage payments. Cottage cluster homes may be attractive to these who have neither the time nor desire to do lots of yard work.

Thank you for your service to the people of Oregon. Please pass HB 2001.

Sincerely,

Sid Friedman 14286 NW Old Moores Valley Road Yamhill, OR 97148