

To Whom It May Concern:

First, I'd like to thank all of the legislators that might read this message for serving as elected officials.

I am taking the time to write to you today as an Oregonian who has lived in Eugene for 30 years. During that time, our city has struggled to keep up with demand for housing, and attempted several policy initiatives. In doing so, we've worked diligently to protect neighborhoods while allowing development to take place in ways that are sensitive to neighborhoods.

What has always impressed me has been how carefully we think through these initiatives. Indeed, the process of debate has frequently unearthed legitimate concerns and addressing these concerns has led to better policies that preserve the ability to build housing.

However, the haste and lack of thought behind HB2001 really staggers me. Based on an unimplemented plan in one city, to cut and paste such an approach onto an entire state is simply mind-bogglingly naïve. I urge you to stop this beast in its tracks and adopt initiatives that empower local governments rather than overrule them with an externally imposed, Draconian solution that guarantees that neighborhoods will experience a cavalcade of unintended, negative consequences.

Can't we increase housing through changes to our existing zoning laws? Why not direct cities to revise existing zoning to promote more housing? Compared to one-size-fits-all statewide ideas, local solutions will always have more buy-in and reflect local values.

HB2001 is a superficial, ill-considered idea that disrespects the cities our legislators represent and will be highly damaging if enacted. As I once heard someone say, "For every complex problem there is a simple solution—and that solution is wrong." So it is with HB2001.

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