February 13, 2019
House Committee on Human Services and Housing
HB 2001 Public Hearing, February 11, 2019

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer and Members of the Committee,

Oregon needs to increase housing supply drastically in this crisis and re-legalizing missing middle home zoning options is a great way to do that. I encourage you to give your support to HB 2001.

By increasing housing supply in many shapes and sizes, we allow the market to catch up to our current migration patterns and expand opportunity for all by protecting the American dream for families of all incomes, especially young people and seniors.

Across Central Oregon, the price of housing has escalated to levels that far outpace wages -52% - while wages have increased 2-3% further making the American Dream out of reach for many working people. This has had a direct impact of increasing homelessness and economic insecurity for many families over the last couple years.

HB 2001 has the opportunity to get rid of regulations imposed years ago and allow landowners freedom to develop all types of housing on their land, while also re-legalizing affordable, middle-class homes across a variety of neighborhoods. This is a state-wide issue and should be addressed as such, while also leaving room in the legislation for local control on implementation. [1]

Thank you for your attention to this matter and action.

Warmly,

Katie Wilson Bend, Oregon