

Dear Committee Chair Keny-Guyer and Sponsor Kotek,

I'm writing in support of House Bill 2001. If passed, this could be a key part of maintaining affordability to the middle class in Oregon. Paired with subsidized affordable housing, it could be a major part of a strategy to keep our state affordable for everyone.

Studies have shown that legalizing slightly denser construction everywhere could bring down the cost of the median new unit considerably. Further, allowing more units to be constructed in the state's wealthiest neighborhoods could lessen the pressure on almost every neighborhood facing displacement, and with the proper safeguards virtually every neighborhood could be better off. I thought this was an excellent summary of this study: <https://www.sightline.org/2019/02/13/who-would-live-in-missing-middle-housing-the-middle-class/>.

I purchased my family's home in 2012, and the increase in property values over past several years has been extraordinarily generous to us. The median renter, on the other hand, has seen a huge increase in the rent burden they face. I think it would be fair to introduce aesthetically disruptive changes to my neighborhood if it helped affordability; fortunately, the changes allowed by HB2001 would be extremely tolerable and unobtrusive.

Thanks,
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