

Good morning,

Thank you for coming to Bend & braving our record snow fall!

For the record, I'm Bend City Councilor, Justin Livingston. I'm not here today to speak on behalf of the Council as a whole. As a body, we have not taken a position on this bill. Although we have discussed that we would like to participate in the rule making process in the event of its passage.

As you are acutely aware, the City of Bend & the State of Oregon is experiencing a housing crisis. According to numbers just released yesterday by Oregon Housing & Community Services, 24.4% of households in Bend & 28% statewide are severely housing burdened. This means these households are spending more than 50% of their gross income on just their housing costs. Bend also has 50% of households that are categorized as housing burdened, meaning these households spend more than 30% of their incomes on housing costs.

As elected officials, we must consider the impacts of our actions on those that would be most impacted by those actions. Adding an estimated \$1,500 annually to the nearly 1/3 of Oregonians that are severely housing burdened could cause irreparable harm to these households.

I ask that during your deliberations you consider those in Bend & throughout Oregon that are living on the edge. There are significant new laws in Oregon & policy work being done locally to reduce greenhouse gases that haven't fully been implemented. We should give that work a chance to be effective before burdening our residents further.

Thank you for your time!



CITY OF BEND

Justin Livingston | Councilor