

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer, Vice Chair Noble and Vice Chair Sanchez, and other esteemed committee members,

The need for additional housing in Oregon is an undeniable truth. However, we don't need to destroy the fabric of our smaller cities in order to achieve a goal of more affordable housing throughout the state. Therefore, I respectfully request that you ensure HB 2001 does not proceed.

There are more equitable ways to create additional housing without destroying single family neighborhoods. We are not all Portland; small cities like mine in the mid valley deserve to be able to determine how growth happens at a local level, with citizen input and local analysis.

HB 2001 will hurt the stability of our communities by promoting rentals over owner-occupied residences; it will create environmental problems due to the waste and pollution associated with increased demolitions and loss of trees, and threatens historically relevant properties as well.

Further, this short-sighted bill puts working-class families like mine at risk of losing the value in what is often their only asset/investment. The increase in rental properties will more than likely destabilize neighborhoods, too. This is just a small sample of the many problems HB 2001 will cause if passed.

The desire to provide more housing is a noble concern- but this bill does not provide an avenue to achieve that goal equitably.

Thank you for giving my concerns your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jolene Thomson