

## Watts Remy

---

**From:** kelly tadlock <ktadlock2001@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 24, 2019 12:41 AM  
**To:** SENR Exhibits  
**Subject:** SB 927 In support of

I am writing to show my support of SB 907 and protecting Historic Portland Building. Neighborhoods. After living in Portland for forty years I am alarmed to see the rate of demolition of historic Neighborhoods, Buildings and trees.. We need to protect this heritage for the future generations.

In 1995, the Legislature enacted ORS 197.772. This so-called "owner consent" law prevents a local government from designating a historic property or district without the unanimous (100%) consent of each and every individual owner. Even one property owner can prevent the designation of an entire district.

This law has blocked the designation of any new Oregon local historic districts for over twenty years. No other state has such an owner consent law. No other government land use designation can be vetoed by any single person. No other community process is so anti-democratic.

Destroying the historical treasures here in Portland destroys the fabric of our communities. I understand Oregon is the only state that allows owner consent when delisting historic properties. This bill would prevent the consent rule that destroys neighborhood heritage. Too many historical places have already been destroyed. It is time to stop the carnage and salvage what is left of Portland.

Protection of Oregon's historic places is important and required by State Planning Goal 5. Historic buildings and districts are vital for commerce, tourism, and quality of life.

Since ORS 197.772 blocked new Oregon historic districts, the only way Oregonians can protect their historic areas has been a federal designation in the National Register of Historic Places.

### Repeal ORS 197.772

ORS 197.772 compelled Oregon's local governments to abdicate most of their Goal 5 historic preservation rights and powers to the federal process. That has to change.

The National Register program is important, but not sufficient. It is very difficult to get listed in the National Register. The process is long and arduous. The federal criteria are very strict. Local governments have little input. The National Register program works for some of Oregon's historic resources and brings needed federal funding to the State Historic Preservation Office, but it is not enough for Oregon.

Oregon needs flexible, state-enabled, locally-designed programs for local Historic Districts.

Section 1 of this bill will repeal ORS 197.772 and sections 3 and 5 will enable local programs.

### Retain Protections For Existing Resources

This bill preserves all existing protections for existing National Register Historic Districts.

This is absolutely vital to those National Register districts and to those who have devoted years of effort to seeking National Register designation.

Section 3(5) and 4 will preserve existing National Register district protections.