

Senate Committee on Business & General Government  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

May 7, 2019

**RE: Support House Bill 2423A with Amendments**

Dear Chair Riley and Members of the Committee,



Thank you for the opportunity to comment on House Bill 2423A, relating to small homes. The Oregon Building Officials Association (OBOA) represents more than 1,000 building officials and personnel throughout the state. Its members include a wide range of building officials, both in large, metropolitan cities and counties, as well as small, rural jurisdictions and includes third-party building inspectors.

As you know, Oregon has a statewide building code, adopted by the State Building Codes Division, which establishes uniform safety and energy standards for all residential and commercial buildings throughout the state. In most jurisdictions, the statewide code is administered and enforced by local city or county building departments. In jurisdictions where neither a city, nor a county assume these responsibilities, the State Building Codes Division must do so.

The policy discussion around small homes has been ongoing since the 2017 legislative session and we appreciate the opportunity to be involved in those discussions and provide input. House Bill 2423A, with the incorporation of the proposed conceptual amendments, would take an important step by establishing a foundation for building codes related to small homes that is consistent and based on a national code. Further, the bill will provide and allow for critical fire/life safety requirements for small homes while taking into consideration cost and practicality. Specifically, the conceptual amendments will allow for a fire sprinkler system, require the installation of a listed photoelectric smoke alarm, allow for a listed heat detector unit alarm and provide important local flexibility. Further, certain provisions of the bill will eventually sunset and allow them to be incorporated into the normal statewide building code process.

Thank you again for this opportunity to comment on House Bill 2423A and we urge your support of the bill with the proposed conceptual amendments.

Sincerely,

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