

To the assembled Legislature,

My name is Donald Davis. I live in West Salem and have been greatly disturbed by the housing affordability crisis that is coming to the Salem area. Housing prices have nearly doubled in 5 years, and the high cost of development in conjunction with the housing bubble burst of 2008 means that housing stock in Salem is significantly below what is needed to ensure housing is only 1/3 of average wages in Salem. I believe that by supporting this bill it will provide one more mechanism to increase housing supply on already developed land, helping to increase density in our neighborhoods and allow for more efficient use of road space and utilities, lowering the cost of services per acre placed upon our cities.

It also will allow for stronger communities as "mother-in-law" dwellings may help slow down the transition of individuals into nursing homes as families can help provide care while providing more independence for those who might need more support. Allowing rural individuals a choice in their living situation is good, as it provides more freedom for people to do with their land as they deem necessary. However by codifying the accessory dwelling units it can ensure that buildings that are being used as dwellings can be built up to code to help keep their inhabitants safe.

I hope that you choose to vote in favor of moving this legislation forward.

Thank you,
Donald Davis