February 22, 2021

Honorable Members of the House Committee on Housing Re: HB2006

I write in support of this bill to facilitate the siting of homeless shelters in our Central Oregon Communities. As an architect that has designed homeless shelters and as an advocate for Affordable Housing, I'm well aware of the barriers to locating such facilities. Conditional Use Permits make the public process very difficult and often result in failure to establish needed facilities. In Central Oregon at our high altitude and desert climate our winters are particularly brutal and the need for warming shelters acute. I urge you to move this legislation forward expeditiously to help alleviate suffering in our communities.

Respectfully,

Katherine Austin, AIA, Architect 179 SE Rice Way Bend OR 97702 707-529-5565 kaaustin@pacbell.net