

Submitter: Roberta Cade
On Behalf Of: Myself
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure: SB1537

SB 1537 has become another example of anti-regulation legislation intended to constrain state agencies and make it harder to enact new regulations and/or rules.

It adds a complexity for a regulation to be upheld, so requirements are likely to make agency rulemaking and compliance prohibitively expensive and complicated. Indeed, it is a significant change to existing law. It may become very expensive for agencies to comply with and could require them to hire outside consultants just to comply with their normal rule making processes. So, we need to know the true potential fiscal impact of this bill on state agencies.

Frankly, SB 1537 is not needed given there already are cost assessments built into agency rulemaking. ie: Building Codes Division regularly assesses the cost impact of any new code advancements. While it is presented as an attempt to protect low-income Oregonians from displacement, it was not crafted in collaboration with low-income advocates; it was crafted by the Oregon Homebuilders and their allies to benefit their bottom line.

We must build any new homes with electric, not gas; adequate insulation; and yes, new building materials made from plastic. Let's clean up the planet while building low cost housing for low income Oregonians.

Please vet and discuss unintended consequences of SB 1537. I'm certain you'll find it lacking. Thank you.