



A Chapter of the American Institute of Architects
Portland, Oregon
www.aiaoregon.org

TO: Senate Energy & Environment Committee

FROM: Heather Wilson, EVP / CEO
American Institute of Architects, Oregon Chapter (AIA Oregon)

DATE: February 7, 2022

RE: Opposition to SB 1537

The American Institute of Architects of Oregon (AIA-Oregon) urges opposition to SB 1537 which has implications far beyond the seemingly simple words it adds to Oregon Revised Statute. As we continue to look for ways to make housing affordable, we must be careful to analyze the actual savings that will be realized and the long-term impacts on our communities, climate and way of life.

SB 1537 actually takes away from state agencies and boards the ability to do such analysis and thoughtful planning. It first expands those state entities that are required to do housing cost impact statements - adding the State Board of Architect Examiners - then it changes what they and eleven others must put in those statements.

SB 1537 would make it nearly impossible for state agencies to propose and pass common sense, forward thinking and science-based legislation. It modifies the process used across multiple state agencies without collaboration between those agencies and without any input with those it purports to benefit.

The complex assessments, detailed findings and rulemaking restrictions and records maintenance requirements seem to be more for the purpose of burdensome delay than improved process and reduction of costs.

On behalf of more than 1,700 member architects, AIA Oregon asks you to stop SB 1537 from moving forward.

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