

Submitter: Geoff Harris
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB3414

I am writing in support of this bill. I worked closely with the City of Redmond during the pilot under HB 4079. Oregon's housing crisis is driven in large part by our onerous and slow UGB process. This VOLUNTARY, 10-year opportunity for cities to expand their UGB with a focus on workforce housing is desperately needed. In our lifetimes, this could be our greatest opportunity to impact the long-term economic and social viability of Oregon. Oregon's land use system is unique, but its limitations have left us with a scarcity of buildable land which is the greatest driver of our extreme housing crisis. Rarely do both ends of the political spectrum agree, but this is one of those times. We need housing, and we need it as soon as possible in as many creative ways as possible. In particular, our cities will fail to thrive if our critical workforce cannot live where they work. Please advance this bill for the sake of all Oregonians. Thank you!