

To: Oregon Senate Committee on Housing and Development

Submitter: Anders Hart

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Oregon's severe shortage of homes has made housing unaffordable to many Oregonians. This crisis threatens the state's economic prospects, disproportionately affects marginalized groups, and is driving our homelessness epidemic. If housing affordability continues to worsen, the state risks losing workers and families who are vital to our state's future prosperity. Urgent action is needed to increase housing production, especially in high-opportunity areas near jobs and transit.

I urge you to recommend HB 847 for approval. This bill would address the housing crisis by reducing the tax burden on missing middle housing, allowing housing in more areas, and making it easier to site shelters and care facilities. These changes will help ease Oregon's housing shortage and make it easier to provide services to people experiencing homelessness.