

Submitter: Kirk Bales

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB1051

Oregon is the fourth most underproduced state in the nation as a share of our existing housing stock, and as a result, our housing costs are among the highest in the country. SB 1051-2 will help address these issues.

SB 1051-2 would allow cities to add up to 200 acres of shovel-ready land from their urban reserves into their UGBs for workforce housing and job development! And it does this while still protecting resource lands.

SB 1051-2 would allow small cities to designate urban reserves, and then quickly bring these lands into their UGB for development. It would also help small cities to attract new businesses and jobs.

SB 1051-2 will help us produce needed housing for some of our most important workers, such as firefighters, nurses, teachers, small business owners, and public employees. The least we can do for these important workers is give them the opportunity to find housing that they can afford.

The Governor, the Legislature, and our state agencies have all agreed that addressing our housing crisis is a top priority, but without creative solutions like SB 1051-2, our state will be unable to address the crisis at the scale and speed that is needed to protect Oregon families and their budgets.