

HB 3317

Comments of Diane M. Daggett, PO Box 33, Joseph, OR 97846

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Thank for your service to your community and to our State. I had the pleasure of serving as a full-time staff member to the Oregon House of Representatives from 1981 through 1984 and Committee Administrator of the House State and Federal Affairs Committee in the 1983 legislative session. And, that was about 4 careers ago!

My name is Diane Daggett. I am a 4th generation resident of Wallowa County, living in Joseph.

I'm here today to support HB3317. Enduring economic development and effective increases to workforce housing in our area and across the nation is a wicked problem. Wicked problems are best addressed by public/private partnerships. The pilot program created by HB3317 is the right process in the right place.

As Vice President of the US Endowment for Forestry and Communities, I witnessed firsthand rural communities negatively affected by the loss of the industrial timber industry. Some were looking back and just trying to hold on and some were looking forward and actively seeking a new future. Wallowa County did just that. We created a non-profit Wallowa Resources, that became a national model; we taxed ourselves to build a state-of-the-art medical complex; and, we created a land trust to assist with land conservation and to save special places like the Wallowa Lake Moraines. Wallowa County is the right place because we embrace entrepreneurial endeavors, seek active learning through demonstration, and work in partnership.

Wallowa County is ready for this opportunity to model new options for economic development and workforce housing. I urge your active support of HB3317 and stand ready to answer any questions.

Thank you.