

MAXINE E. DEXTER
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

DISTRICT 33



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

To: Members of the Senate Committee on Housing and Development

Date: May 3, 2023

Subject: Support HB 2889

Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Anderson:

For the record, my name is Dr. Maxine Dexter and I am honored to be the State Representative for House District 33, which includes NW & Downtown Portland, Linnton, and Cathedral Park. I am grateful for this opportunity today to present to you HB 2889. This bill serves as a clean-up bill for the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis (OHNA) policy. The bill has been significantly amended from the introduced bill as the OHNA policy was passed with our HB 2001 package earlier this session. This bill passed out of the House Committee on Housing and Homelessness with a vote of 9-1, and from the House floor with a vote of 39 in favor, 3 opposed and 17 excused.

The OHNA policy, as stated, was incorporated into HB 2001 and was signed by Governor Kotek on March 29th of this year. It will establish a means by which planning for and facilitating the production of housing options at all levels of affordability will occur in every corner of our state. With the support of executive agencies, cities will have the tools and support they need to ensure that they are creating an efficient and effective environment in which affordable and safe housing will be produced.

HB 2889 is now being utilized to make some technical edits and to clarify policy intent included in HB 2001 (2023). These changes were raised by legislators, local jurisdictions, stakeholders and DLCDC and were transparently shared and discussed across the broad group of stakeholders who raised the concerns as well as those who have been working on the OHNA policy for years. The edits you see before you are the result of a robust negotiation process and are important to the policy working as intended.

I am grateful to the ongoing dedication of several members of the DLCDC team who facilitated the process for these amendments and they submitted a memo (linked [here](#)) which was posted to OLIS when the bill was heard on the House side. The memo details the desired changes, and then categorizes them by technical clarifications, policy clarifications, and policy changes. Any policy changes were discussed by the stakeholder group and were agreed upon as being important and/or acceptable and consistent with the intent of the bill.

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The following changes are the most substantial and are being called out for your consideration and possible discussion:

- The Metro allocation of housing needs has been moved to the Department of Administrative services;
- The definition of buildable lands was clarified;
- It was clarified that affordable housing is produced by for-profit, non-profit, and public developers; and
- Clarified that cities who are adequately performing will not be referred to a housing acceleration program, even if they are the lowest performing in their region.

Once again, I am incredibly thankful to the work of the DLCD team and the various stakeholders who engaged with us throughout this process. It is my honor to be working in partnership with you, our agencies and Governor Kotek and her team to prioritize housing production at all income levels across the state.

I urge you to support this bill. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maxine Dexter", written in a cursive style.

Representative Maxine Dexter, M.D.
House District 33 (NW Portland and NE Washington County)