

Submitter: Brenna Bell
On Behalf Of: 350PDX
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB3414

350PDX is a climate justice organization based in Portland with hundreds of volunteers and thousands of supporters working to forward climate justice in the region. While we deeply appreciate the work being done to ease Oregon's housing crisis, this bill has a fatal flaw that makes it impossible for 350PDX to support. In short, it rolls back decades of thoughtful land management planning and could wreak havoc on the green infrastructure necessary for more climate resilient communities.

This bill would allow developers request an unlimited number of variances with no requirement in the legislation that a developer demonstrate any benefit to the community. It also strips municipalities of any way to deny these variances for environmental concerns. Oregon's land use regulations exist to advance health, safety, equity, and livability in our communities and our environment. Nobody questions that we need thoughtful and effective strategies to address the current housing crisis, but HB 3414 represents neither.