



February 22, 2023

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS
Oregon State Capitol 900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: House Bill 2889 and House Bill 2001 – February 23, 2023, Public Hearing

Chair Dexter and Committee Members:

Thank you for another opportunity to comment on HB 2889, to be incorporated into HB 2001. Since 2004, Housing Land Advocates (HLA) has worked to ensure that Oregonians of all income levels can obtain adequate and affordable housing. We are proponents of land use policies and planning choices that advance affordable, fair, and equitable housing outcomes, which is why we strongly support the direction that HB 2889 takes Oregon in addressing our state's housing undersupply.

We commend the leadership it has taken to advance this bill and address most of the concerns raised by stakeholders. We note the following provisions in particular:

- Section 2 establishes “creating more housing choice by affirmatively furthering fair housing” as part of the legislative intent behind the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis;
- Section 9 institutes the production of fair and equitable housing outcomes as one of the principles to be considered in rulemaking for urbanization;
- Sections 14 through 19 create a balanced Housing Production Accountability system with progressive measures that include technical and other assistance before advancing to more punitive measures;
- Section 14 provides an opportunity for public feedback to DLCDC on a city's performance during the audit and prior to the adoption of a Housing Acceleration Agreement;
- Section 17 adds specific remedies, including the imposition of model ordinances, procedures, actions, or anti-displacement orders, to those that may be included in an enforcement order;
- Section 23 adds new housing types to the definition of “needed housing,” including “housing for people with a variety of disabilities;”
- Section 28 expands the measures that may be incorporated into a Housing Production Strategy to include affirmatively furthering fair housing, the preservation of naturally occurring fair housing, and the conversion of underutilized commercial and employment lands as housing; and
- Section 37 expands the list of housing types included in the annual report on housing production to include accessory dwelling units, middle housing, housing with accessibility features, and rent-restricted housing units.

As we continue to follow the progress of this bill and consider comments submitted by our colleagues, we reserve the right to submit additional comments.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jennifer Bragar

Jennifer Bragar
President

cc: (all by e-mail)

Allan Lazo and Matthew Serres, Fair Housing Council of Oregon

Allen Hines, Community Vision

Housing Land Advocates Board