

Submitter: Matthew Wellner
On Behalf Of: Crandall Group
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure: SB1537

Chair Jama, Vice Chair Anderson, and members of the Committee, thank you for your time. For the record, my name is Matt Wellner. I am here on behalf of Crandall Group, a real estate Brokerage and land development firm based in Beaverton. My background is in planning, land use, and land development. I work on both UGB expansion areas and infill projects, from concept, through site development. I have for more than 25 years.

I am here today to voice my support for SB1537. I believe that it is a step in the right direction toward simplifying the housing production process, and I am happy to see that we are finally looking for solutions to problems that are seemingly becoming insurmountable. I personally don't think that this is a perfect solution, but I also don't think there is one to be found. That said, the fact that we are having this conversation and that it resulted in a bill intended to address some critical housing-related challenges, is to me, very encouraging. I am hopeful that dialogue will continue into the future.

This bill will create a positive influence at several levels, to policy and planning decisions, to finance planning, to simply providing more flexibility for what can be done on the ground, all with the intent of benefitting affordability and establishing much needed land supply where it is actually needed and where it can actually be serviced. Again, it's a good step in the right direction.

I am hopeful that you can support SB1537, because I certainly do.