

Submitter: Steven Fisher

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2138

Dear Committee Members

I would support this bill except for the inclusion of one proviso, Section 22(1) (f) which removes the protection of demolition of historic homes. Removing restrictions of demolition of historic homes, without review, will in no way lead to a meaningful increase in the production of affordable and middle housing in Oregon. I would point to a recent progress report from the Portland Planning and Sustainability Bureau citing the significant production in middle housing resulting from Portland's Residential Infill Project, over 1,400 units mostly on the eastside of Portland. All without wholesale demolitions of historic buildings. I would also suggest that Oregon can make even more progress by incentivizing private land owners sitting on large parcels within urban areas, that are underperforming, Lloyd Center, would be one prominent example, to build middle housing. In summary, I support all of the Bill except Section 22(1) (f) and I ask the Committee to delete this provision and then advance the Bill.