

Submitter: Linda Chris Bentley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2138

Dear Oregon Legislators,

As a former land use planner in this state, I oppose language contained in HB 2138 waiving demolition review for Historic Register properties. While I wholeheartedly support efforts to provide more low and middle income housing, let's not throw the baby out with the bathwater. Demolition review DOES allow balancing of priorities, and demolition review of National Historic Register properties results in more livable neighborhoods. While we want more affordable housing, we also need neighborhoods of which the residents can be proud, neighborhoods with engaging character, and neighborhoods that are truly livable PLACES, not just houses. Oregon is not Anywhere USA, it is OREGON, and possesses a unique character worthy of recognizing and conserving.

Please remove Section 22(1)(f) from HB 2138.

Linda C. Bentley
Corvallis