

Submitter: Barbara Bushell

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2138

I live on Peacock Lane in Portland, a National Historic District since 2017. Part of why Peacock Lane is on the National Register is because there is absolutely no other development in Oregon like the Lane, we are one of a kind. Allowing unrestricted demolition and redevelopment of any part of the Lane will completely destroy why we are famous, not only nationally, but also internationally.

Oregon was late to become a state and slow to develop; consequently, our architectural heritage is quite limited compared to most of the rest of the continental states. The relatively few architectural treasures still in Oregon should be cherished as a part of who we were and who we are, not looking back, but planning for the future.

National Register districts often represent the collective cultural heritage of a community. Contributing structures are integral to understanding a district's social, economic, and architectural history. Retaining the structures allow future generations to appreciate and learn from the past.

Please remove Section 22(1)(f) from HB2138-1. The intent of HB 2138 is to create more middle housing in Oregon, which I generally support. However, as written, middle or affordable housing is not required as a condition for removing demolition review. Demolition review is the only protection we have in Oregon, to remove it will nullify Oregon's Land Use Goal 5 for historic resources.

Thank you for your consideration.

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