

Submitter: Amy Wilson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2138

Please remove Section 22(1)(f) from HB2138-1.

I am supportive of increasing middle housing, however Section 22(1)(f) strips away an important protection for a community's collective cultural heritage.

Demolition review is simply a chance for an affected community to balance consideration of its cultural resources that are important for all Oregonians – it isn't denial.

Removing demolition review denies the public a voice, going against Oregon's Land Use Goal 5. While it is understandable that a developer might find this process onerous, we must be able as citizens to protect our important cultural resources.

The worst aspect of this section is there is NO requirement for middle or affordable housing as a replacement. Isn't this the whole point?

Once a historic resource is gone, the community loses structures that are key to its social, economic, and architectural history – it's forever. We must care about our heritage and history while we still find less harmful ways to build middle housing.