

Submitter: Kay Demlow

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2138

While I support the effort to increase affordable infill housing in Oregon, I am opposed to letting developers have free rein with our protected historic properties. At the very minimum, we must retain the requirement to hold a hearing before any demolition permits. That is the very nature of the Cultural Resource programs and inventories in our land use laws!

Without this basic step of holding a public hearing, it will become far too easy for entrepreneurs to purchase and demolish the properties that our communities have chosen to protect. If, indeed, the new housing project would add enough value to the community, then that information will be presented in a hearing, and the appropriate Board can make a fair decision. But without this step, I am afraid that some companies will take advantage of this loophole and build whatever they like in pursuit of profit.