



**Testimony by City of Wilsonville Mayor Shawn O'Neil Supporting SB 1086:
*Legislation Provides for State Agencies Collaboration to Increase the Number
of Qualified Building Inspectors Who Can Help with Housing Production***

Scheduled for public hearing on March 11, 2025, before
the Senate Committee On Labor and Business

Chair Taylor, Vice-Chair Bonham, and Members of the Committee:

I am testifying in support of SB 1086, which directs the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) to establish an apprenticeship program for building inspectors in cooperation and coordination with the State Apprenticeship and Training Council.

The City of Wilsonville is a rapidly growing Oregon community that provides both single- and multi-family residential living opportunities.

Building inspectors are needed to review, inspect, and approve all new housing projects in Oregon. In order to advance housing production on a timely basis, local jurisdictions need access to a ready supply of building inspectors who are able to competently inspect new dwellings under construction prior to occupation in order to ensure public safety.

There is an increasing shortage of building inspectors statewide due to retirements and increased demand for these services. Inspectors play an important role for ensuring our communities are built safe and in compliance with the latest building codes

SB 1086 will provide a new apprenticeship training path for inspectors in addition to those already in the field. This bill will help curtail the workforce shortage of inspectors and help keep housing approvals on track to meet statewide housing production targets.

The City appreciates your consideration and urges a Do-Pass vote on SB 1086 with a referral to Ways and Means. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Shawn O'Neil', is written over a light blue circular stamp or watermark.

Shawn O'Neil, Mayor
City of Wilsonville