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Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

Attn: Chair Senator Khanh Pham
Vice-Chair Senator Dick Anderson
Member Senator Anthony Broadman
Member Senator Todd Nash
Member Senator Deb Patterson

Subject: Support for SB 974 – Fixing Oregon’s Housing Permit Process

Dear Chair Pham, Vice-Chair Anderson, and Members of the Senate Committee On Housing and Development,

I am writing to express my strong support for **Senate Bill 974**, which aims to streamline the housing permit process in Oregon. Current delays in land use decisions are making it increasingly difficult to build homes, further exacerbating the housing crisis. SB 974 will help alleviate this issue by reducing the approval timeline for single-family home applications to **45 days** while maintaining reasonable review periods for other types of housing projects.

Oregon is facing a severe housing shortage, with many families struggling to find affordable housing. Lengthy permitting processes only add to this crisis. By expediting these approvals, SB 974 will allow for faster development and provide much-needed relief to homeowners, renters, and the broader community.

Key benefits of SB 974 include:

- **Faster Housing Approvals** – Reducing bureaucratic delays ensures that housing projects move forward without unnecessary setbacks.
- **Government Accountability** – Local jurisdictions will be held to clear deadlines, ensuring a more transparent and predictable process.
- **Economic Growth** – A more efficient permitting system will create jobs, boost the construction industry, and stimulate local economies.
- **Fairness for Applicants** – If local governments fail to meet deadlines, applicants will be eligible for partial refunds, reinforcing accountability.
- **Support for Affordable Housing** – Maintaining expedited reviews for affordable housing developments will provide much-needed relief for lower-income Oregonians.

The passage of SB 974 is an important step toward resolving Oregon's housing crisis. By improving efficiency and accountability in the permit approval process, this bill will contribute to a more responsive and effective housing system.

I strongly urge you to support SB 974 and advocate for its passage. Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate your leadership in addressing Oregon's housing challenges and welcome any opportunity to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

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