



February 5, 2026

Senate Committee on Housing and Development

900 Court Street NE, Salem Oregon 97301

RE: SB 1576 Accessible Housing

Dear Chair Pham, Vice-Chair Anderson, and Members of the Committee:

The City of Portland supports the intent of increasing the requirements for accessible housing in Oregon and largely supports how SB 1576 is written.

People with disabilities and older adults lack accessible, affordable housing. Many rely on social security income or part-time jobs, earning 30% of area median income or less. Census data estimates that 15% of Oregonians have a disability, however, building codes require just two percent of units in buildings of 20 or more units be physically accessible. 22 percent of all households in Portland have at least one household member with disabilities, with the share increasing to 33 percent of people over 65 reporting having at least one disability.

Legislation to increase the requirements for accessible units is needed and long overdue. Increasing the requirement from two percent to ten percent of dwelling units is a good start. However, this legislation is limited to development projects with more than 15 units. This threshold represents large projects. Over the last five years, more than 30% of the units produced in Portland were from projects with fewer than 15 units.

With the State of Oregon's recent efforts to encourage middle housing, there is a need to address the applicability of Type A units in OSRC with attention to how to apply to townhouses. In Portland this housing type accounted for 12 percent of all housing permitted over the last 5 years. This gap in the building code is a barrier to local governments offering bonuses or other incentives to encourage accessible middle housing types.



This bill is important to so many people across the State of Oregon and the City of Portland urges you to support it. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Tiffany Koyama Lane*

Tiffany Koyama Lane

Portland City Councilor District 3