

Submitter: Beth Deitchman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1521

Chair Pham, Vice Chair Anderson, and members of the Senate Housing and Development Committee,

My name is Beth Deitchman; I'm a resident of North Portland and a member of Portland: Neighbors Welcome. I'm writing to voice my support for SB 1521.

Since moving to Portland in 2016, I've seen my neighborhood grow in encouraging ways. I work in the ground floor space of an apartment building in St. Johns that my husband and I watched being built while walking our dog. After a massive fire, the house next door to us was replaced by three lovely homes that now hold three families. Cottages are clustering all over my neighborhood. These changes have brought more people and more businesses to St Johns. Which I love to see.

This is a good start, but we can do better. The houses next door to me sold for over \$400,000 each. Above my work, one-bedroom apartments rent for more than \$1500 a month—some closer to \$1600. We have more housing, yes, but we also need more affordable options.

SB 1521 will help neighborhoods like mine house more Portlanders of various ages, wages, and life stages, giving them access to the parks, coffee shops, taphouses, bookstores, food carts, public transportation, and schools that make North Portland vibrant. Fully funding inclusionary zoning could help make that happen.

We need to do everything we can to end the housing crisis afflicting Portland. Your choices matter and I urge you to make them boldly, because housing is a human right, and we owe it to our neighbors to see them housed.

Thank you,  
Beth Deitchman