

Submitter: Patty Rystadt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4035

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing to ask for your support of HB 4035A as a practical step toward increasing the supply of affordable housing across Oregon.

Our communities need neighborhoods that are easy to walk and bike through and that include a mix of housing options for people at different stages of life. Policies like HB 4035A can help make it possible for first-time buyers to enter the market and for older adults to downsize without leaving the communities they love. This bill helps shift the focus toward building homes people can realistically afford and the kinds of neighborhoods that support daily life.

Because buildable land is scarce, projects often have to use every available square foot just to remain financially viable, leaving little space for parks, trails, or shared community areas. HB 4035A helps remove that constraint so communities do not have to choose between adding housing and preserving quality-of-life features. With a more balanced approach to land use, we can provide both.

Developments also need to reach a certain size to support small businesses, local services, and amenities that make neighborhoods complete and livable. Allowing modest adjustments to Urban Growth Boundaries under HB 4035A would make it easier to plan and build these complete communities, encouraging walkability while helping reduce environmental impacts.

For these reasons, I respectfully encourage you to vote YES on HB 4035A.

Respectfully,
Patty Rystadt