

RARA DESIGN, LLP.

May 31, 2023
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street SE
Salem, OR 97301

To whom it may concern,

I write to challenge the Oregon State Legislature's wisdom in considering a law (HB3414) with language that ignores the cultural and historic benefit that supportive historic preservation policy offers our state. I cannot support a law that is likely to sacrifice our common history in order to encourage new development offering only the short-term benefit of increasing our housing supply. Without protective language that identifies the importance of historic resources and control misguided demolition and permanent loss, for-profit developers will be free to ignore their duty towards more-enduring public interests and the common good. Please do not pursue this path without including language that reasonably protects what we hold to be important to us all.

Sincerely yours,

B Story Swett, Architect, Rara Design, LLP.