

Greetings Housing and Development Committee Members,

My name is Jenny Franks and I live in Clackamas County. I am a member of Oak Grove United Methodist Church; OGUMC also participates in the Leaven Community Land and Housing Coalition, a coalition of faith communities in Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington County, leveraging our land and resources so that all Oregonians can come home.

We live in a world in which far too many of us are one bad or unfortunate event away from finding ourselves homeless, given the costs of housing and living. This is a systemic problem. I have witnessed people I care deeply about experience homelessness or housing insecurity and I have seen how affordable housing programs can help catapult people into better, sustainable living situations.

As a person of faith, I believe we are called to love all our neighbors as ourselves. Housing is a fundamental human need and we should all work together to help provide affordable housing to all our neighbors.

Your action is crucial. Please approve the SB8 so that faith communities across the state of Oregon can build affordable housing on our land with as few barriers as possible.

Our neighbors need your help, creativity and support in leveraging every option and financing stream to begin solving the crisis of housing instability and homelessness in our city and county.

Respectfully,

Jenny Franks