

Submitter: Lauren Horn

On Behalf Of: Myself

Subject: Testimony in Support of HB 3136 – Removal of Real Estate Specific Restriction on Planning Commission Membership

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support for HB 3136, a bill that proposes the removal of the real estate-specific restriction on planning commission membership, limiting only Real Estate professionals to a maximum of two seats on a given Planning Commission. This bill addresses an important issue of fairness, and I believe its passage would contribute to a more equitable and inclusive process for selecting members of county planning commissions throughout the state.

Currently, the restriction that limits planning commission membership based on real estate affiliation unfairly excludes real estate professionals in a manner that no other profession is being restricted. HB 3136 rectifies this issue by allowing the public to elect individuals to planning commissions without being constrained specifically by this occupation. This change would wholly encourage diverse experiences and perspectives within our community.

Furthermore, HB 3136 retains the provision that limits the number of individuals engaged in the same occupation, business, trade, or profession from serving simultaneously on a planning commission. This safeguard ensures that no single industry or interest group dominates the commission's composition, maintaining a balanced and fair decision-making process.

Removing the real estate-specific restriction will not “stack the deck” in favor of real estate interests. On the contrary, it will empower the public to elect individuals based on their qualifications, expertise, and commitment to serving the community’s best interests. This change is an important step toward ensuring that our planning commission reflects the unbiased values of our State, our Counties and the people in which each planning commissions serves.

I strongly urge you to support HB 3136 and help bring about a more fair and inclusive process for planning commission membership. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Lauren Horn

Oregon Licensed Real Estate Broker with Fisher Nicholson Realty LLC

REALTOR

Oregon Realtors Governmental Affairs Key Committee Member

