

JANEEN SOLLMAN
STATE SENATOR
DISTRICT 15



OREGON STATE SENATE

April 4, 2023

TO: House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water in Support of
HB 2659

Chair Helm and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my support for House Bill 2659. I appreciate the efforts of the Department of Land Conservation and Development to develop rules in response to the Governor's executive order 20-04. I share the commitment and urgency to mitigate the impacts of climate change and close the equity divides that continue to exist in our communities. Because I care about these issues, I continue to urge DLCD to listen to local governments about the challenges these rules present as currently written, which do not allow them to advance the goals and objectives of the Governor's executive order.

I understand political pressures when many stakeholders are at the table with varying perspectives. I also understand that when making policies, or rules, one operates based on the best information available. However, when new information is available, or the impacts of that policy result in unintended consequences, leaders must take the time to amend what is not working and get it right.

As a legislator, I will be the first to say that legislating this fix is not ideal and if this can be worked out administratively, that would be the best outcome. However, if it is not handled administratively and with the urgency it demands, given the deadlines for our communities to comply, we have a responsibility to our constituents to fix these issues legislatively.

I have continued to respectfully ask DLCD to amend the rules in a timely way with meaningful input from our communities that are critical to the work advancing and have signed on as a sponsor to the bill to keep this conversation moving forward. I believe that we can all move in the same direction with the same goals and vision if the rules can be flexible enough to honor our differences with how we meet those goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janeen Sollman".

Senator Janeen Sollman
Senate District 15

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