



Chair Pham, Vice Chair Anderson and Members of the Senate Housing and Development Committee,
Oregon State Legislature
Salem, Oregon

Re: Support for HB 4108 – Enabling Voluntary Annexation of Non-Contiguous Residential Property

Chair Marsh and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Better Housing Together, I am writing to express our strong support for HB 4108 and the -4 amendment.

Better Housing Together is a multi-sector, community-led organization working to address Lane County's housing crisis through partnership, innovation, and policy solutions that increase housing supply and affordability. We believe HB 4108 represents a practical, targeted reform that removes an unnecessary statutory barrier to housing production while respecting local control and property rights.

HB 4108 allows Eugene to voluntarily annex certain non-contiguous, residentially zoned parcels within our urban growth boundaries when those parcels are already served by municipal infrastructure and when annexation is requested by the property owner. In our community, where infrastructure investments have already been made and land costs are among the most significant drivers of housing affordability, this flexibility is essential.

This bill won't solve everything, but is an important first step. By aligning land use authority with existing infrastructure, HB 4108 gives us the ability to be more creative and responsive in pursuing incentives and development strategies that allow more housing to come online, particularly in areas where it is least expensive to build. Over time, this flexibility can support infill, middle housing, and redevelopment opportunities without expanding the urban growth boundary or requiring new public infrastructure investments.

Importantly, HB 4108 preserves local discretion. Eugene is not required to annex any property, and annexation occurs only at the request of the property owner. This balanced approach enables housing production while maintaining community oversight and local decision-making.

As Oregon continues to face a persistent housing shortage, we need policy tools that remove friction, reduce delays, and allow us to fully utilize land and infrastructure that already function as part of our city. HB 4108 does exactly that.

For these reasons, Better Housing Together urges your support for HB 4108. We appreciate your leadership and your continued commitment to advancing thoughtful, effective housing solutions for communities across Oregon.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Betsy Schultz", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Betsy Schultz
Board President