

**DAVID GOMBERG
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 10**



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Chair Jeff Golden
Sen. Committee on Natural Resources & Wildfire Recovery
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for HB 2809

Chair Golden and Members of the Committee,

I intended to join my esteemed colleague Rep. David Brock Smith to testify in support of HB 2809 before you today, but I need to be in another committee to speak to another bill. Please accept this written testimony in absence of my presence.

HB 2809 is a much-needed piece of legislation that affords for the temporary siting of RVs on properties that have had their dwellings rendered uninhabitable due to natural disasters.

In the aftermath of the 2020 wildfires, too many Oregonians found themselves displaced due to the loss of their home. I can't begin to imagine the pain and frustration those that lost their homes must have felt, but I do know that common-sense bills like HB 2809 afford for wildfire-impacted Oregonians a chance to rebuild with one less worry hanging over their heads.

We cannot be penalizing Oregonians impacted by the wildfires for simply trying to make do with the circumstances foisted upon them. Especially in rural counties, expecting impacted residents to temporarily relocate during the rebuild process will impose undue burdens on those who are already facing enough challenges as is.

For many of these residents, whether due to cost or logistics, relocating to the nearest hotel or temporary shelter during the rebuild process just isn't a viable option. Wildfire impacted Oregonians need to be afforded stability and the reassurance that they can continue to reside in their home communities as they begin to oversee the process of rebuilding their homes.

If an impacted Oregonian has access to an RV, there is simply no reason they shouldn't be afforded the opportunity to utilize that vehicle as temporary lodging during the rebuild process.

Thank you for your consideration of HB 2809 and I urge your aye vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Gomberg".

Rep. David Gomberg
Oregon House District 10