

Submitter: Matt Palmer
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1566

I am writing in support of Oregon Senate Bill 1566 and its importance to community-serving projects such as the Ashland Attainable Housing Project, which includes co-located early childhood education.

Housing stability and access to childcare are deeply connected. For working families, educators, and essential workers, the ability to live affordably near high-quality childcare is critical to economic stability and workforce participation.

While Oregon has taken important steps to support integrated housing and childcare, such as the Build-Up Oregon grant, which the Ashland project has received, significant barriers remain. Prevailing wage and construction requirements can drive costs to a level that makes affordable housing projects with co-located childcare financially infeasible, even with targeted state support.

SB 1566 helps address this gap, ensuring that projects aligned with state priorities can move forward and deliver both affordable homes and essential childcare services.

Thank you for your leadership and for supporting policies that strengthen families and communities across Oregon.