

Submitter: Drew Millegan
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2138

Dear Chair Marsh and Members of the House Committee on Housing and Homelessness,

My name is Drew Millegan and I live in downtown McMinnville. I am writing you to express my support for HB 2138, which greatly expands housing production options for smaller developers and helps to close loopholes in the previously passed missing middle and housing production laws. McMinnville in particular has been exempt from some of the previously passed housing bills due to coming under size exemptions, namely the city was allowed to keep their parking mandates that are empirically proven to be one of the largest depressors of housing production, however housing production is a statewide problem which this bill should help to streamline.

I urge you to pass this bill, even if the full effects of many of its reforms may not be felt for many years. Housing production is not just a matter of quality of life improvement for residents all over the state - I would also say that it is a political imperative for many of your districts. Those districts which fail to build enough housing construction to meet demand will inevitably lose population relative to those districts that do build, and by extension where votes will shift to. We can already see this at a national scale with the outmigration from coastal blue states to sunbelt red states which are more liberal with their housing production regulations. Reforms made by bills such as this one are Oregon's chance to prove that our state can still build our own way and compete with the best of them, in conjunction with other common-sense and evidence-based zoning and building code liberalizations.

Thank you.