

Submitter: Annabelle Valdini

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure: HB3414

Hi, my name is Annabelle Valdini, I'm 15 years old, and I live in Portland, Oregon. I'm writing to oppose Section 2 of HB 3414 because it would remove tons of important environmental protections for urban areas. Please remove Section 2 from HB 3414 because it would let housing developers bypass critical land-use regulations and build in fragile environmental areas such as the Willamette River Greenway. At this time in our history, we should be creating more environmental protections, not rolling back those already in place. We need to remove Section 2 from this bill because we're endangering the city's natural habitats that most need our protection right now, including wetlands, and floodplains. Yes, there is a crisis of affordable housing in Portland, but sacrificing our climate is not the way to solve this crisis. The section of this bill would let housing developers easily avoid the environmental regulations that protect our city's most sensitive habitats (plus our air and water quality), which we cannot let happen. Please, remove Section 2 of HB 3414, because we need to protect our fragile ecosystems, not bulldoze them for housing, so that we can help our ecosystems and communities for decades to come.