



MULTIFAMILY NW

The Association Promoting Quality Rental Housing

Oregon Senate Committee on Housing and Development
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Gary Fisher
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RE: Support for SB 6

March 13, 2025

Chair Pham, Vice Chair Anderson, Members of the Committee,

Multifamily NW urges your support for SB 6, which expedites the permitting process for multifamily development and incentivizes housing construction in Oregon.

Multifamily NW is the largest association of housing providers in the state, representing nearly 300,000 units and every profession related to the industry — from property managers and owners to landscapers, maintenance professionals and screening companies. Our top priority is to collaborate with public sector leaders to identify and implement proven solutions to Oregon's ongoing housing crisis.

Delays in permit approvals add significant costs to housing development. When projects are stalled in bureaucratic review processes, developers face rising interest rates, labor costs, and material expenses — all of which contribute to higher rents for Oregonians. Predictable and efficient permit timelines will allow housing providers to plan and budget effectively, leading to lower costs for renters and more homes on the market faster.

A streamlined permitting process will help developers bring badly needed multifamily housing online sooner, alleviating Oregon's housing shortage. The construction industry is a critical driver of Oregon's economy, supporting thousands of jobs. Delays in permitting result in stalled projects, delayed hiring, and uncertainty for workers in the housing sector.

Oregon's housing crisis demands urgency. SB 6 establishes a clear and reasonable timeline for building permit decisions, ensuring that state and local agencies do not create unnecessary bottlenecks in housing production. While agencies may need additional resources to meet this requirement, SB 6 provides an opportunity to identify process inefficiencies and improve the overall permitting system for the benefit of all Oregonians.

Oregon cannot afford to let bureaucratic delays continue to hinder housing production. SB 6 is a commonsense measure that will help accelerate housing development, lower costs, and improve housing affordability for all residents. Multifamily NW urges your support for this bill and looks forward to working with lawmakers to ensure its successful implementation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Zach Lindahl
Director of Government Affairs

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