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March 16, 2021

Representative John Lively
Chair, House Committee on Economic Recovery and Prosperity
900 Court Street NE, HR D
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Opposition to HB 3040 and associated amendments

Dear Chair Lively, Vice-Chair Cate, Vice-Chair Kropf, and Members of the Committee,

The City of Lebanon strongly opposes and urges your NO vote on HB 3040 and associated amendments and supports the testimony of the League of Oregon Cities and the municipalities, utilities and park districts that provided testimony in opposition to the Bill during the public hearing on March 16, 2021.

HB 3040-1 would impose several one-size-fits-all statewide mandates for System Development Charges that may result in saving for developers, but includes no provisions requiring developers to pass through cost savings to homebuyers or reduce house prices. In addition, the testimony provided by Mr. Brian Latta, City Administrator for Dallas, demonstrated the difference in permit processing between small, medium and large cities, and attempting to institute a one-size-fits-all approach will create a scenario of winners and losers, and could more negatively impact smaller rural cities.

Housing affordability is a worthwhile conversation and one that all levels of government and private industry should be participating in to address. However, the City of Lebanon does not feel this proposal will have any true positive impact on housing affordability and would simply result in additional burden and less resources for cities to serve all residents and businesses in the community.

The City of Lebanon joins other Oregon municipalities and agencies, and the League of Oregon Cities and urges you to vote no on HB 3040.

The City of Lebanon appreciates your consideration of our testimony and welcomes any further dialogue.

Sincerely,

Nancy Brewer
Interim City Manager