

Submitter: Mary M Bowler
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2138

Please remove Section 22(1)(f) from this bill.

The intent of HB 2138 is to create more middle housing in Oregon, which I generally support. As written, middle or affordable housing is not required as a condition for removing a demolition review process.

I have been a realtor for 25 years in Portland and I can honestly say that homes built 100 years ago are more well constructed, with more lasting materials than anything built in the last 25 years. I also believe very strongly that one of the most appealing aspects of our state is the mix of old and new, of vintage and modern. This bill will strip away this feature and leave us looking plain vanilla, like many other American cities that have succumbed to the wrecking ball. If the demolition review process is removed from the bill, all it will do is favor wealthy developers - many from out of state - who don't care about the fabric of our communities. I do support growth and development but without throwing the baby out with the bathwater. Thank you for removing the section of the bill cited above.

Michele Bowler-Failing
Proud Oregonian for more than 50 years now.