

Testimony in support of HB 3032

Chairs Meek and Boquist and members of the Committee,

I live at 451 NW Skyline Blvd. in Portland (Senate District 17). I am a founding board member of Home Share Oregon and strongly SUPPORT House Bill 3032.

I believe that the incentive for home sharing contained in HB 3032 would provide important momentum for the home sharing movement in Oregon. My wife and I shared our home with an unhoused family a few years ago. While the idea felt strange at first, the strangest thing by far was how remarkably easy it was.

Our experience confirms that home sharing is an attractive option for homeowners needing additional income, daily living support or companionship. Most of all it provides an invaluable altruistic opportunity to support fellow community members struggling to afford a place to live. Home sharing presents a potentially vast inventory of affordable housing in our state with virtually no new private expense in most cases and no public sector costs. Thus, even if the revenue impact resulting from HB 3032's incentive was realized extensively around Oregon, the fiscal cost to taxpayers would still be minuscule relative to any other public expenditure devoted to rental subsidy and affordable housing development.

I therefore urge the Committee to support House Bill 3032. Thank you for the opportunity to testify. - Charles Swindells
