

Greetings, Chair Fahey and Committee Members,

My name is Nate Ember, a resident of Milwaukie, Oregon. I am a principal at Ink:Built Architecture, and also participate in the Leaven Community Land and Housing Coalition, a coalition of faith communities in Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington County, leveraging our land and resources so that all Oregonians can come home.

It's because of a faith community that my partner and I decided to shelter a houseless couple through a tough winter storm some years ago. As an architect who has become increasingly aware of the stark economic and housing inequality that plagues our system of housing delivery, my firm and I are passionate about addressing these inequities in any and every way possible.

Your action is crucial. Please approve the SB8 so that faith communities across the state of Oregon can build affordable housing on our land with as few barriers as possible.

Our neighbors need your help, creativity and support in leveraging every option and financing stream to begin solving the crisis of housing instability and homelessness in our city and county.

Sincerely,  
Nate Ember