

Submitter: John Heylin
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3031

Hello, my name is John Heylin and I own an axe-throwing bar and restaurant in Bend, Oregon. I can't tell you how much passage of this measure would help in eventually helping my staff afford to live here. I have had staff that are homeless, I have staff that have been evicted for failure to pay incredible rent hikes, and have most recently had to console a staff member whose pipes in her bootleg tiny home in the forest froze and was on the verge of getting her kid taken away. It's easy for people to wave their hands and say there's a housing crisis, it's another to see the ramifications of decades of NIMBY-ism and its effect on the working class in Bend.

Long ago Bend green-lit housing and commercial buildings with no thought to the cost, allowing people to build willy-nilly without charging SDC's to pay for infrastructure. Now we need housing more than ever and infrastructure costs are crippling the home-building market which already is having a hard time making projects pencil. As always, past generations have saddled future generations with the costs that they ignored for the sake of saving money. The State helping pay for costly infrastructure will set right the generational wrong we are all facing as a community. Not only that, but it would encourage denser building which has the added effect of making public transit pencil, allow people to live in the communities they work in, and also create a more resilient tax-base.

Please consider helping right past wrongs and help the next generation of Oregonians thrive.