

Submitter: Doug Riggs

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: SB644

SB644A

Members of the Committee,

This bill (as amended) will allow accessory dwelling units to be approved by Counties in rural areas - - as envisioned by SB371 - - as long as they comply with existing state R327 wildfire hardening standards in the Oregon Residential Specialty Code.

The bill is necessary to allow rural ADUs to be sited until the state's wildfire mapping zones are finalized.

The language ensures that ADUs will meet this high level of wildfire protection, but still be allowed in order to help rural areas of the state meet the housing crisis.

The bill as amended was unanimously approved by the Senate Committee on Natural Resources.

Here is the specific language from the A-engrossed version:

The accessory dwelling unit complies with the construction provisions of section R327

of the Oregon Residential Specialty Code, if:

(A) The lot or parcel is in an area identified as extreme or high wildfire risk on the statewide map of wildfire risk described in ORS 477.490; or

(B) No statewide map of wildfire risk has been adopted; and

(m) The county has adopted land use regulations that ensure that:

(A) The accessory dwelling unit has adequate setbacks from adjacent lands zoned for resource use;

(B) The accessory dwelling unit has adequate access for firefighting equipment, safe evacuation

and staged evacuation areas; and

(C) If the accessory dwelling unit is not in an area identified on the statewide map of wildfire

risk described in ORS 477.490 as within the wildland-urban interface, the accessory dwelling unit

complies with the provisions of this section and any applicable local requirements for defensible

space established by a local government pursuant to ORS 476.392.

We urge passage of this simple, but important, legislation.

Thank you.