

Rosenberg Corey

From: van Pelt Richard <richardvanpelt@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2017 10:48 AM
To: SHS Exhibits
Cc: Peter Courtney; Sen Boquist; Sen Gelser; Sen MonnesAnderson; Sen.michaeldembrow@state.or.us; Senator Burdick; Sen Prozanski; Clem Brian Rep.
Subject: Fwd: "No" on SB 1024
Attachments: Signature.pdf

Dear Sen. Gelser and members of the Committee,

I am writing to ask that you not proceed with SB 1024. I write to you in at least two capacities. I am your constituent and have supported you in every election. I am a fifth generation Oregonian whose great great grandparents rest in Claggett Cemetery. I am also on the board of Friends of Marion County.

This bill, supported by groups who also support cuts to affordable housing at the federal level, cuts away at the gem that is Oregon's land use system. Under the guise of helping to address a housing crisis for median income families seeking modest homes close to schools, work, and shopping, rural residential properties would be opened up for development, none of which would meet the definition of "affordable."

This bill permits the building of an "accessory dwelling." The key term in the bill is not defined. In the absence of a definition in law, I can only rely upon what the word means, in this case drawn from the Online Etymology Dictionary:

"accessory (n.) also accessory, early 15c., 'that which is subordinate to something else,' also as a legal term, "one aiding in a felony without committing the offense" (as by advising, inciting, concealing), from Late Latin accessorius, from Latin accessor, agent noun of accedere 'to approach'"

The term, as commonly used, means the dwelling would be "subordinate to something else." What that something else is, and how it is subordinate, is not clear in the bill. As written, the bill is a wedge that seeks to circumvent Oregon's treasured land use laws in the interests of some of the very groups who would gut the ability of modest families to secure affordable housing.

Sincerely,

Richard van Pelt

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