

Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to testify in opposition to House Bill 2001.

I am very disappointed that the HB2001 idea of requiring Oregon cities to allow multifamily units on all single-family residential lots has resurfaced again after the defeat of House Bill 2007 only a year and a half ago. To me, it looks like nothing more than a waste of public resources, money and time on another BAD bill.

Just like HB2007, Tina Kotek's HB2001 is a dangerous proposal which will strip local authorities and citizens of their right to enact and enforce their own zoning standards. It will silence our voices in city halls and demonstrate again that laws can be bought and sold.

If enacted, the HB2001 will come with a huge price tag in the form of widespread demolitions and higher housing prices, environmental damage caused by new construction, and destabilized and displaced minority communities which will be squeezed out from their old homes and be replaced with luxury housing.

Those of us who live in Portland already see that this is happening. People, who invested their lives in their homes and communities, are moving out from Portland as they see "no future here". These single-family homeowners leave because they are tired of being bullied and called "elites" by so-called "housing advocates". Those of us who still live here are worried about negative impacts that we already see in our neighborhoods due to increased density, such as increased crime, overcrowded schools, deteriorating infrastructure, loss of privacy and tree canopy, and sidewalks turning into parking lots for new residents.

HB2001 is a short-sighted piece of legislature which is not going to accomplish its goal of providing affordable homes for the 'missing -middle". HB2001 won't make Oregon homes more affordable. Instead, it will open up our cities for for-profit developers and mask it as a way of helping people who need homes.

This populist idea will do more harm than good to our cities and neighborhoods. There are other options to create more housing within the state's urban growth boundaries. It doesn't have to be done in such a ruthless and disrespectful manner.

Therefore, I'm respectfully asking you to vote "NO" on this bill.

Regards,

Natalia Bronner
SW Portland Resident