

I am opposed to HB2001. How can our legislators be so arrogant as to believe they can solve Portland's housing crisis by eliminating single-family zoning across the state? How will this blanket approach solve the housing crisis from Portland to Pendleton? I don't believe the bill has the research to show how it's going to solve anything and it definitely doesn't describe the potential negative impacts. Citizen input on this bill appears to be negligible considering the enormous ramifications on its citizens.

Local zoning has been developed and customized over many years by many planners in many communities. How can cookie-cutter HB2001 possibly swoop in and solve every city's housing ills? Property owners count on their zoning not changing. Suddenly, my neighborhood starts sprouting infill, what the heck does that do to my property value? Up, down, there's no guarantee, and what property owners want most is stability. And how can the infrastructure of a single-family neighborhood suddenly cope with the additional influx of cars, water demands, sewer demands?

I see this legislation as entirely a developer-driven bill to infill "underdeveloped areas," code phrase for poorer areas that can be bought for a song and bulldozed. Making money for developers is what this legislation is all about, not creating affordable housing. The hidden costs to such a zoning change may be astronomical -- the possible negative ramifications do not appear to have been explored even lightly.

- David Pinyerd
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