To whom it may concern,

I'm writing in formal, recorded support of HB2916 and urge you to pass it out of committee with a recommendation to pass.

I am an active neighbor from University Park in Portland and volunteer with St Johns Center for Opportunity on their Housing committees and fully support the village model as a safe housing alternative, as well as support of the move of Hazelnut Grove into the St Johns Community.

Through my work with the Kenton Women's Village and Hazelnut Grove over the past 2 years, I have seen what a difference this type of sheltering can have in promoting safety, productive community engagement and support.

I welcome a village in St Johns, welcome the current residents of Hazelnut Grove to be my neighbors, and commit to supporting its success, in whatever way I can.

Sincerely,

Sheila Mason

Neighbor, Volunteer, member of the St Johns Welcomes the Village Coalition