

Dear Senate Committee members,

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony. I live in Southwest Portland and have been involved in the issues of density and infill and zoning for almost three years.

I do not support the bill and I would venture to say that many of my colleagues and neighbors do not as well.

The density proposed is in excess of anything that we need now or in the near future. The in-migration numbers in Portland have dropped substantially. It does not comply with the Comprehensive Plan as currently written in terms of compliance with frequent transportation, having updated sewer and water infrastructure, and it is destructive of that prized Portland planned possession, single dwelling neighborhoods that have plexes on corners and in designated multifamily areas. It will encourage demolition of small affordable houses because they are the cheapest to tear down.

The density it proposes would crowd people onto 5000 square foot lots in hard to imagine numbers.

Our neighborhoods want to help meet the need for more housing. But this bill is premature. Much better planning can be achieved with more time and thought. Portland is working on a density plan which is based on our local knowledge and resources. A statewide plan that forces density everywhere is not ideal because local jurisdictions are better equipped to create a housing plan that meets their needs.

There is much more I could say. But I urge you to vote against this bill and give the cities and counties more time to assess their needs and to develop their own plans. And to come up with the financial resources to do that study and implement their best plans.

Again thank you for reading this.

Cordially,

Leslie Hammond  
Southwest Neighbor  
Portland Oregon 97221