

June 14, 2019

Dear Co-Chairs Gomberg, Manning, and members of the Joint Sub-committee:

On behalf of Bradley Angle, I am writing in support of HB 2001 with the Dash 16 amendments, which would allow duplexes, tri-plexes, quads, and cottage clusters in cities of a certain size. Passage of this bill will increase the diversity of less expensive middle housing options in neighborhoods that have long been exclusive.

The Housing Assistance Program at Bradley Angle provides short-term and long-term rental assistance to survivors homeless due to domestic violence or those who are housing but currently fleeing. We have culturally specific advocacy for African American and LGBTQ survivors. We primarily serve families and our advocates spend a great deal of their time focusing on supports for long term housing stability.

Bradley Angle has a non-traditional scattered site shelter option as well. We have master leased units, including duplexes, with a local CDC, so that survivors with large families can have access to a shelter option. This shelter model is also supportive of families with ill and/or disabled members who can't live in a shared community.

Oregon's housing crisis has a particularly serious impact on victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children. Oregon women face significant rates of housing instability. Women who rent are the most cost-burdened in the state.[1]

Many of the families we serve have at least three children in the home. These families often need to be in 3 bedroom units. There are fewer rental units of that size and it's nearly impossible for single parents to afford a single family home. We also support intergenerational families, where the head of household is caring for parent or other family member living with a disability. We recently housed a survivor who is disabled with children in a duplex. She wouldn't have been able to afford a single-family home of that size.

High housing cost-burdens make it harder to leave an unsafe situation, and create a greater risk of abuse or homelessness. State and national surveys have identified the need for safe, stable, and affordable and middle housing as the greatest unmet need for survivors of domestic and sexual violence in both rural and urban communities across Oregon.[2] HB 2001 will increase housing opportunities, and thus provide safety and stability for Oregon families. No single type of housing will solve the problem, it's important that all families have access to they type of housing that best fits their needs and resources. This is particularly important to communities that have been historically excluded from housing and displaced from the communities they've managed to create.

All Oregonians, whether brown, black, or white, deserve a safe and stable place to call home. Passage of HB 2001 will help lead Oregon forward out of the past, towards a healthy and vibrant future where all families have the opportunity to thrive.

For all of these reasons, we urge support of HB 2001 with the Dash 16 amendments, and we thank you for your time and work.

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¹ <https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/201711/Downloads/CommitteeMeetingDocument/150533>; <https://nnev.org/mdocs-posts/2017-oregon/>

2: Count Her In 2017: <https://womensfoundationoforegon.org/uploads/CountHerInreport.pdf>