

My name is Janel Hovde. I am a long time resident of north Portland, a member of the St Johns Church, and our church is a part of the Leaven Community Land and Housing Coalition. Many of our congregants and neighbors are living in insecure housing or facing homelessness. We are a part of a large group of faith communities who have land that we want to use to address the housing crisis our state is facing by building affordable housing. Unfortunately, there are many barriers (legal and financial) that faith communities face when we are trying to build. HB 2000 would remove many of those barriers, and so I am in support of this bill.