

Submitter: Nathan Markowitz
On Behalf Of: Myself and Historic structure
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB3414

Honorable members of committee on rules:

First, I wish to mention that I have never submitted testimony before; I am an individual and representing myself.

I am very concerned about HB 3414 in its present form. I have spent my career in Eugene as a physician and am well aware of the critical need for further housing. However, I am also aware of the need for art, nature, beauty, and history. This bill needs amendment to offer the same protections to historic structures and districts as it offers natural resources. These amazing historic structures are fast being destroyed in Oregon and we lag the nation and the world in our preservation efforts. Keeping icons of the past not only help us remember the past; they help us understand the present and thoughtfully plan for the future. They also add great richness to the lives of all Oregonians.

Unknown to many, Independence Hall in Philadelphia was nearly torn down and saved only by the insistence of General Lafayette of France on his return to the USA to celebrate the anniversary of our independence. Please revise this bill to include protections for historic structures in my home state of Oregon. These are as irreplaceable as the natural beauty and landscapes we all enjoy. Thank you for your kind consideration of my commentary and for your service to the state.

Nathan Markowitz MD