

Chair Dexter, Vice-Chair Gamba, Vice-Chair Helfrich, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my support for HB2889, which establishes the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis within the Housing and Community Services Department. This bill is crucial in addressing the ongoing housing crisis in our state and ensuring that all Oregonians have access to safe, affordable housing.

The Housing Needs Analysis will provide important data and information that will help guide the state's housing policy, ensuring that resources are directed where they are most needed. This bill also provides a timeline for the department to adopt rules and implement the analysis components, which is essential to ensuring that the housing crisis is addressed in a timely and effective manner.

In addition, the bill's amendment to land use requirements for local governments related to urbanization is commendable. This amendment requires Metro to adopt a housing coordination strategy and allows cities outside of Metro to adopt rural reserves, which will help ensure that housing is developed in areas where it is most needed. This will help reduce sprawl and protect important rural lands.

Finally, I applaud the bill's requirement for the Land Conservation and Development Commission to adopt or amend implementing rules by January 1, 2026. This will provide much-needed clarity and direction for local governments and developers and ensure that the housing crisis is addressed in a comprehensive and effective manner.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB2889 and urge you to pass this bill into law. This bill will have a positive impact on the lives of countless Oregonians and help ensure that everyone has access to safe, affordable housing.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Sincerely,

*Devon Lawson-McCourt*

Vida, Oregon