

Submitter: Devon Lawson-McCourt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB2984

Chair Dexter, Vice-Chair Gamba and Helfrich, and members of the Committee.

I am writing in strong support of HB2984, which allows the conversion of commercial buildings to workforce housing within the urban growth boundary. As someone who is committed to addressing the housing crisis in our district, I believe that this bill is a critical step in the right direction.

Currently, many commercial buildings in our community sit vacant and unused, while there is a growing need for affordable housing options for our workforce. By allowing these buildings to be repurposed for housing, we can create more affordable units and help address the shortage of available housing in our area.

The bill's provision to suspend collection of system development charges and prohibit local governments from enforcing parking minimums for these conversions will provide much-needed relief to developers, making it more financially feasible to create affordable housing units.

I believe that this bill aligns with my commitment to promoting sustainable development, and I am confident that it will bring significant benefits to our community. For these reasons, I urge you to support HB2984 and help us address the housing crisis in our district.