

Submitter: Joan Petit

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB847

Chair Jama and Members of the Committee, I am writing in strong support of SB 847, including all the posted amendments. I'm a single mother of two young adult children. I'm fortunate to own the home we all live in now, but I am deeply concerned about my children's ability to live on their own and support themselves when the cost of housing is so high and the availability of diverse housing is so limited. The current lack of reasonably-priced housing options limits the ability of my kids and all young people in Oregon to remain here and grow into adulthood and start their own households. And, as I've considered my options for myself after my children move out, I would like to be able to move into a smaller place in or near my current neighborhood, in part so that a young and growing family can move into my current large home, which has more space than I'll need in the long term. However, there are so few options for me to stay near my neighbors and community in a smaller home. SB 847 and the amendments are sensible approaches that will increase the diversity, affordability, and availability of housing for people of a range of incomes and housing needs. I particularly appreciate the inclusion of the single stair amendment, a sensible code update that will lead to more housing diversity and better lit, more pleasant units. I appreciate the work you all are doing to address Oregon's housing crisis. SB 847 and the amendments are an important part of the solution.