

Submitter: Anthony Greiner

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3569

While this bill may be well-intentioned, it is also too broad, especially when it comes to Historic Districts. These districts, established by the Federal Department of the Interior were established to maintain the character of areas that represent part of our nation's past. Development in those areas is possible, and done, but new developments need to be compatible with the characteristics of the areas architecture.

This bill, if approved, would REQUIRE (not allow) any sort of structure to be built. We have seen how this type of architecture has destroyed large pieces of Portland's history (look at what happened to Albina when the high and mid-rises were approved on Williams and Vancouver avenues.) The law also could well be a violation of Federal Laws written to preserve our nation's architectural heritage.

The fix is to put in language exempting areas designated as Historic by either the Federal Government, State, or local governments. That will have minimal effect on new housing, but will preserve our heritage.