

Submitter: Andrew Damitio

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and
Water

Measure: HB2659

The Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities (CFEC) rules were a cornerstone of Governor Brown's outstanding environmental rulemaking, requiring higher urban density zoning in downtown areas, better transit and bike planning, and ending superfluous parking minimums. It's bizarre and alarming to see legislators who campaigned on platforms of safe streets, environmentalism, and housing affordability sponsor this bill, which undermines the state's progress towards all three of those objectives by allowing recalcitrant local governments to effectively nullify those rules.

Legislators that voted for HB 2001, a bill that as-amended allows the state to override local governments on housing policy if they don't meet production targets, are sponsoring this bill that restricts state authority over local governments in parking and transportation planning. Heck, it's likely that non-compliant cities under HB 2001 would be directed to follow policies similar to CFEC guidelines like ending parking minimums to increase housing affordability, even if this bill was to pass.

It's clear this bill isn't about ideological or policymaking consistency. Kill this bill. It actively undermines the incredible work the legislative and executive branches of Oregon have been doing over the past several years.