

Submitter: John Kim
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB3414

I vehemently oppose the flawed and destructive legislation represented in HB 3414. I am so tired of legislatures catering to special interests over the interests of citizens; this is a particularly egregious example of catering to special interests who are only interested in maximizing profit, over the concerns of citizens, past citizens who carefully crafted ordinances and guidelines and rules for creating not just cities and towns and homes, but communities that we have inherited and treasured, and current generations, who want to continue what we have inherited, build constructively and sustainably upon that foundation and pass that onto those will that will come after.

How many times will you let special interests and their dollars cloak themselves in the latest progressive terms, as if their crass attempt to do away with any restrictions so that they can do what they want? How many times will you accept the cynical declarations of development interests all stuffed with the latest buzzwords and industry-provided pseudo-studies, while taking their campaign contributions over the interests of your constituents, and moreso, over that of proven practices of urban planning.

This bill will cause irreparable harm and will contribute to the erosion of the quality of life in our communities that we have been subjected to for the past few years, contributing to the exodus of people leaving our state. It does not address those ills that it cynically proposes to fix, such as affordability, increased housing. It only seeks to maximize profits for units that will be well above what ordinary Oregonians can afford. And any declarations about the trickle-down theories put forward that in time they will contribute to lower prices is again, a willful ignorance that denies the reality. In the meanwhile, the characteristics and lives of Oregonians will be permanently damaged by continued erosion of our urban forests.

This bill should never have been brought forward. It is flawed and frankly, corrupt. I am sick and tired of politicians putting forward damaging legislation like this. Do better and when you do seek change, make sure that it is deeply studied and well thought out first, and not some quick fix that you claim will perform miracles. There are no miracles, only the results from studious hard work. Ascribe to the physicians doctrine that when you do something, first make sure that you do no harm.