

Submitter: William Mohring

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB1537

Oregonians need you to take bold action to solve our housing crisis this Session. SB 1537 is a step in the right direction to increase housing production and bring down the costs of housing for Oregonians. In order to solve our housing crisis, we need to nearly double the current rate of housing production. Our current planning and permitting system will not allow us to reach those numbers because there are too many regulatory and financial barriers. SB 1537 is intended to alleviate many of those barriers by granting us adjustments from certain design standards, increasing our land supply to build affordable housing, and requiring accountability at the local level.

Oregon's homebuilders are ready to build the housing their communities need, but we need serious changes to our planning and permitting system to make it happen, and the future of our state depends on it. I support SB 1537 because it is intended to eliminate many of the barriers builders face every day, including overly strict planning criteria, costly appeals of needed housing from those who do not want more housing, and a lack of buildable land supply that drives up the costs of building. Moreover, SB 1537 creates a new office to provide oversight to make sure that our housing laws are being followed at the local level. These are all important changes that will help Oregon overcome its housing crisis. For these reasons, I strongly encourage you to vote YES to support SB 1537 this session.