

Submitter: Kimberly Brown

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3062

Dear Chair Tran and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kimberly Brown and I am writing in strong support of HB 3062, Planning for Healthy Communities. I have seen first hand what poor zoning codes can mean for someone's health. I witnessed my friend develop asthma and chronic illness flare ups after she moved to an apartment near NE Columbia Blvd. It all stopped several months after she moved away.

I urge you to support this bill to update Oregon's land use laws to build public health criteria into Comprehensive Plans, zoning codes and permitting processes.

Oregon communities deserve protection from the harmful effects of urban industrial development. Pollution from these major industrial sites impacts air, water and soil quality and can have significant health impacts on kids and families. Industrial developments also create noise and light pollution and traffic impacts that can impact the health and wellbeing of nearby neighborhoods.

We shouldn't put industrial developments next to sensitive areas such as residential neighborhoods, schools, hospitals and care facilities. This bill requires that industrial permit applicants conduct a study and mitigate harm for any existing sensitive uses within a 1,000 of a proposed facility.

Current land use planning systems fail to work for communities. Public health should be at the forefront of land use planning, and not an afterthought.

We do not have to pick between economic growth or environmental well being. We can have both with proper planning.

We need to know as citizens that we are being protected from industrial pollution & environmental harms. Thank you for supporting HB 3062.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Brown