

Submitter: Benjamin Roche

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB438

Chair Pham, Vice-Chair Anderson, and Members of the Committee,

I write today in strong support of Senate Bill 438, which provides a much-needed solution to Oregon's growing housing affordability crisis. By allowing property owners outside urban growth boundaries to site an additional home for family members, this bill creates new pathways for affordable, multi-generational living while maximizing existing land use in rural areas.

Oregon is facing a severe housing shortage, and too many families are struggling to find cost-effective options to stay close to loved ones. Manufactured and modular homes offer a high-quality, affordable alternative to traditional housing, yet restrictive land-use policies often prevent families from utilizing their own land to address their housing needs. SB 438 removes unnecessary barriers and ensures that rural Oregonians have more flexibility to create sustainable housing solutions.

This bill is a commonsense approach to easing the housing crisis while respecting property rights, family needs, and rural communities. I urge you to support SB 438 and help make homeownership and affordable housing more accessible for Oregon families.

Thank you for your time and consideration.