



## Taxpayers Association of Oregon

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### Taxpayers Association of Oregon urges yes on HB 3522

- Squatters are costing individual landowners thousands of dollars in costs and countless months of work to deal with.
- This has caused landlords to leave the market or pass on new construction, resulting in Portland new rental construction hitting a 15-year low.
- KGW-TV reported on widespread squatting at a once famous Portland building;

*"Blood-stained walls cover a historic Southwest Portland storefront. It's just one of the many vacant buildings downtown struggling to get off the market. The Charles F. Berg building on SW Broadway and SW Alder Street once stood out for its avant-garde design and pure gold façade. Now, it's the latest side effect of the drug and homelessness crisis plaguing Portland. Squatters broke in and took over the 20,000 square-foot space...The smell of urine inside the building was so strong, one could almost taste it. Given the state of the building, they're hiring a biohazard team to clean it."*

Please pass Hb 3522 to improve the removal process for landlords.