

March 17, 2025

Chair Pham and Members of the Committee Oregon Senate Committee on Housing

RE: Support of Senate Bill 6

Dear Chair Pham and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kelly Ritz, and I am a home builder building homes in Central Oregon and the Portland Metro Area. I appreciate the opportunity to support and submit testimony on Senate Bill 6, which would establish a 45-day limit for building permit approvals. Simply put, this bill is about cutting red tape, increasing housing supply, and getting families into homes faster.

As a builder, I see firsthand how permitting delays drive up costs, slow down projects, and ultimately hurt Oregon families. Right now, a process that should take weeks often drags on for months, sometimes longer. Every day of delay means higher costs—not just for builders like me, but for homebuyers and renters who are already struggling with housing affordability.

A 45-day timeline for permit reviews would have a direct and immediate impact on Oregon's housing crisis by reducing costly delays, boosting housing supply, encouraging investment, helping communities rebuild from wildfires, and provide housing for all Oregonians.

Senate Bill 6 is a commonsense solution that will help Oregon address its housing crisis by ensuring that local governments process building permits in a timely and predictable manner. It doesn't lower standards or cut corners—it simply ensures accountability in the permitting process so builders can do what they do best: build homes for Oregonians.

I urge your support for Senate Bill 6 to remove barriers, speed up housing production, and provide the certainty that builders, homebuyers, and communities desperately need. Please take this meaningful action to remove unnecessary time barriers to the construction of housing. All Oregonians who value a place to call home are counting on us to act!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely

Kelly Ritz President Stone Bridge Homes NW, LLC