

Submitter:

George Dunn

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3499

The housing crisis is a serious issue impacting an entire generation. Families are struggling to find homes they can afford. Young people are seeing their dreams of independence and stability slip further away. I think most people would agree, we need solutions, and we need them now. Urban renewal is one of the tools that can help, but to use it effectively, city officials must be able to act without always requiring a public vote. This isn't about taking power away from voters, it's about making sure our system works the way it's supposed to.

When you vote for someone, you're choosing them because you trust them to make good decisions for you. We elect representatives because we know they'll take the time to learn, analyze, and understand the complex issues that most of us don't have time to dive into. Urban renewal is one of those issues. The truth is, urban renewal is often misunderstood. It's full of technical details about planning, development, and funding that requires a greater understanding of city operations. By letting our representatives have the opportunity to handle these decisions, we're giving them the tools to address many of the issues, including the housing crisis, currently impacting our communities.

I fear this bill will only exacerbate the housing crisis.

I strongly oppose HB 3499 and I implore you to vote against it.