

Submitter: Jennifer Newton

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3190

I support HB 3190A and urge your support. With the crush of new housing developments putting a strain on suburban and ex-urban cities like Banks, all of our historic buildings are at risk. Zealous developers and city governments are paying little or no heed to preserving the cultural heritage of our communities. The assumption is that "new" is always "cheaper and better" than retaining and renovating the beautiful buildings our ancestors left as a legacy to us -- buildings made of brick, old growth timbers and details that show the beautiful craftsmanship of a bygone era.

At this critical juncture, when our main streets, commercial corridors, and downtowns across the state need an infusion of support and financial investment, I stand with Restore Oregon in their assertion that HB 3190A can play a crucial role in helping to invest in and revitalize these properties. And, it also aligns with and helps leverage existing state programs like the Main Street Revitalization grant fund. It would provide a long-term incentive as the benefit period is over ten years, an essential stabilizing benefit for our downtowns.

Please pass this bill!

Jennifer Newton
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