

Christopher Parelius
Portland
LD 2003

We are in the middle of a housing affordability crisis caused by a housing shortage. This shortage is caused by web of unnecessary regulation and empowers a vocal minority to dominate the decision making process to the exclusion of everyone else. People are still going to want move here and if we do not allow new units to be built to accommodate that growth we'll end up in the same situation as San Francisco and NYC.

This bill frees up the market to allow greater density in a form that doesn't destroy the character of single family neighborhoods, think of the classic triple decker for instance, it gives homeowners the freedom to build unobtrusive ADUs, and insures that growth is environmentally and fiscally responsible by placing near existing city services. This last point both ensures a more responsible use of tax dollars and prevents the destruction of the rural character of our state.

If you believe we must solve this affordability crisis once and for all support this bill. Working people are counting on it. New homeowners are counting on it. Renters are counting on it. And small businesses are counting on it. The greater percentage of our incomes we spend on housing the less we can spend supporting local business. And the more workers need to pay to afford housing the less small business can afford to stay afloat and the difficult it is for them to attract workers. For these reasons this bill is an indispensable tool to solve this crisis. Thank you.