



PRESS RELEASE

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Oregon House Restores Local Control on Affordable Housing

HB 2564 will let local governments set inclusionary zoning rules

SALEM – Today the Oregon House of Representatives took action to improve the supply of affordable housing in communities throughout the state.

[House Bill 2564](#), which passed the House by a vote of 34-25, will allow local governments to incentivize and require that affordable housing units are built along with market-rate housing. This type of housing requirement, known as “inclusionary zoning,” has been banned in Oregon since 1999. Texas is the only other state that has implemented a sweeping prohibition against inclusionary housing policies.

“Oregonians throughout the state are struggling to find an affordable place to live,” said Rep. Jennifer Williamson (D – Portland), the chief sponsor of HB 2564. “Repealing the statewide ban on inclusionary zoning is a step we must take in order to meet our state’s growing housing needs.”

Between 2007 and 2011, [a quarter of Oregonians paid more than half of their income on housing related costs](#) – a burden that is unsustainable for many Oregonians, especially low-income families and seniors on fixed incomes.

HB 2564 will allow local governments to adopt an inclusionary zoning ordinance that requires up to, but not more than, 30 percent of housing units within a residential development to be sold below market rate. It also requires local governments to offer the developer an incentive such as a fee waiver or density adjustment.

“I believe that every Oregonian should be able to afford a safe, decent place to live,” said House Speaker Tina Kotek (D – North/NE Portland), who carried the bill on the House floor.

“Unfortunately, access to safe and affordable housing is out of reach for far too many Oregonians. Inclusionary zoning is an important and needed tool.”

HB 2564 now moves to the Oregon Senate for consideration.

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