

Sara A. Gelser Blouin

State Senator

District 8



Oregon State Senate

Vote Explanation: SB 3442

I appreciate the goals and intentions of SB 3442A, which would open up more spaces to build affordable housing. The need to build more housing is urgent, particularly in communities where this tool can be used. I also appreciate the intent of the proponents of this measure to resolve one of the greatest human needs our state is facing.

However, I remain concerned that siting homes in a floodplain will inadvertently create a disparity in housing stability by creating low income communities in areas more likely to flood. These are the individuals least likely to be able to recover from catastrophic loss from a natural disaster. I voted no because I do not think we should create incentives to build affordable housing in ways that would have the unintended consequence of disproportionately increasing the number of lower income Oregonians living on less desirable and more dangerous lots.

Sara

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